

SOCCER

WEEKLY

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All about Victoria

Inside: What can be expected in the Ampol Cup and how do the Melbourne teams shape up?

An eye on juniors

Once again, we will have the best junior news and photo coverage around. See for yourself — Pages 12-13

Olympic:
Boom
or
Bust
See P.3

Women honored

The girls are getting busy again — turn to P15.

GIANT DEAL FOR SOCCER

South Melbourne's Steve Blair is expected to lead his team's charge towards an NSL title.



ASF chief Sir Arthur George will explode a multi-million dollar bombshell on February 3 when details of the arrangements with West Nally for the next four years are made public. Will it be a bonanza for Australian soccer? See page 3.

Young 'Roos in Costa Rica

Australia's World Cup youth team is now ready to set Central America on fire — See stories P.5

Rossi, Italy lead Europe

Paolo Rossi has become Europe's player of the year. Italy have been rated as the best team. This and overseas stories on Pages 14-15.



Jim Patikas will be leading our Young 'Roos in the Costa Rica tournament — see P.5

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

SAINTS CRUSH WOLVES

St. George crushed Wollongong 6-2 in the opening round of the Super Challenger Tournament at the St. George Stadium last Sunday.

Goal starved soccer fans only had to wait 30 seconds to see the first goal by Saints. Left-back Robbie O'Shea raided the left touchline, sent a perfect cross to the back post to find young Robbie Slater who headed into the net from close-range.

In the 7th minute, Wollongong again was in trouble when their defender Peter Willis attempted to cut out a cross from the right flank by Saints striker, John Muskovits. He watched in horror as he deflected the ball into his own net.

The bad news continued for Wollongong.

Johnny O'Shea, playing in his new role at right back, pushed up into the Wollongong box to hit St George's third goal from 8 metres.

The men from the South Coast were battered and were wondering as to their wisdom of making the journey to Sydney.

But Wollongong's lethal left striker, Phil O'Connor, raided deep into St George territory crossing an excellent ball into the box for Glenn Fontana to head past St George goalkeeper, Terry Greedy in the 25th minute.

Nine minutes from the break O'Connor again ripped into the Saints and this time angled a ball for Fontana to latch onto and slide

it into the net.

St George had a new look about them as their back line consisted of the three O'Shea brothers (John, Michael and Robbie) and they were well covered by Australia's classy sweeper, David Ratcliffe.

But the jokes were over as far as Saints were concerned and they took full control and rattled up another three goals.

New central striker, Muskovits, flashed into the Wollongong box, was pushed in the back by a defender and referee Tony Boskovic immediately awarded St George a penalty.

Veteran left striker, Dez Marton with sheer arrogance smashed home his shot for St George's fourth goal in the 44th minute, (40 minute halves were played).

In the 62nd minute Boskovic reached into his pocket and pulled out his red card and flashed it twice, first at Wollongong's Alan Waldron, then at St George's Paul Wilkinson. I felt Wilkinson was a little unlucky to earn the wrath of Boskovic during the clash of the two offenders.

Soccer fans were stunned in the 65th minute when they saw the best goal of the match by Marton.

Marton broke away and ran towards the left flank,

beating two defenders, then veered infield into the Wollongong box and zig-zagged past another three defenders before unleashing a scorching left-footed drive into the net.

St George manager, Frank Arok, acknowledged his veteran player's magnificence and saluted Marton by taking him off as if to say: "That's it son, fine job, that's enough for today."

With only nine minutes left, Slater headed into the Wollongong net after excellent spade work by Peter Stone and Muskovits.

For St George, everybody performed soundly, but some special mention must go to Marton, Muskovits and Slater.

For Wollongong, O'Connor and Fontana desperately tried to stem the tide.

ST GEORGE: Greedy (Fraser 44th min): J. O'Shea, M. O'Shea, Ratcliffe, R. O'Shea, Wilkinson, Stone (Paul 72nd min), Barton, Slater, Muskovits, Marton (Koczka 65th min).

WOLLONGONG: Preston (Vardareff 40th min): Willis (Iresdale 61st min), Ainsworth, Pic, Pollard, Waldron, Gaffney, Kerr, Fontana (Beggs 61st min), Cotton, O'Connor.

REFEREE: Tony Boskovic.
CROWD: 5,827.

TWO GOAL SOPER

Striker Marshall Soper began to justify his signing with Sydney Olympic when he spearheaded his new club to victory over his former club Leichhardt in the first round of the Super Challenge Cup

Olympic defeated Leichhardt 2-0 and Soper scored in each half.

Olympic also had on display their new central defender from New Zealand, Ricky Herbert, who filled the role of free-back.

Leichhardt frightened Olympic in the 29th minute when Tony Morsello scored from a square ball across the face of the Olympic box, but the linesman ruled the little striker off-side.

The first half was reasonably even although poor finishing cost Olympic goals.

However, the St George Stadium erupted when Olympic hit the net in the 36th minute.

Olympic captain, Peter Raskopoulos cracked a long shot which Leichhardt's goalkeeper, Bobby Parkes found too hot to handle and only partly saved.

Soper was in like a flash to capitalise and smash it into the net from an acute angle.

The first half ended with just that solitary goal and the second half saw Leichhardt gradually come back into the match.

Some bite crept into the match after Soper heavily tackled a Leichhardt player, and it appeared from that moment on that Leich-

hardt's tough centre-back, Jimmy Bottalico, wanted to balance the books for Leichhardt.

Short scuffles kept cropping up between the two, and to be very honest Soper could consider himself very lucky that he found referee Doug Rennie in a charitable mood.

Leichhardt midfielder Jimmy McBreen got through an enormous amount of tackles as he tried to block-out the mobile Olympic midfield trio of Phillips, Raskopoulos and Katholos.

The second half saw Leichhardt's new coach, Fil Bottalico change his goalkeeper Parkes and brought on former Australian World Cup custodian Greg Woodhouse.

It proved to be a wise change as Woodhouse, on three occasions, got Leichhardt off the hook with three glorious saves.

Replacement centre-back, Ian Rowden who came on in the 27th minute, put in a solid performance with clean tackles and even pushed up field to support attacks.

Herbert also gave a fine performance, although not spectacular. He was satisfied to just drop off and pick up the loose ball and knock it first time. Once he gets his bearings with his new club and improves his distribution, he should prove to be a sound acquisition.

Minutes after the break, Leichhardt's McBreen lashed out a vicious left footed thunderbolt shot that whistled inches over the Olympic cross-bar.

In the 47th minute, Katholos crashed a 15 metre shot well on target that fully stretched Woodhouse in mid-air to deflect the ball around the corner.

And then just nine minutes from the end, Soper was on the scene again to put the match beyond doubt.

A cross came into the Leichhardt box which appeared to be well cleared by defender, Mark Brown with a header. But Brown watched in horror as the ball landed on Soper's boot as the latter volleyed the ball into the net.

Hundreds of excited children ran on to the field to embrace Soper.

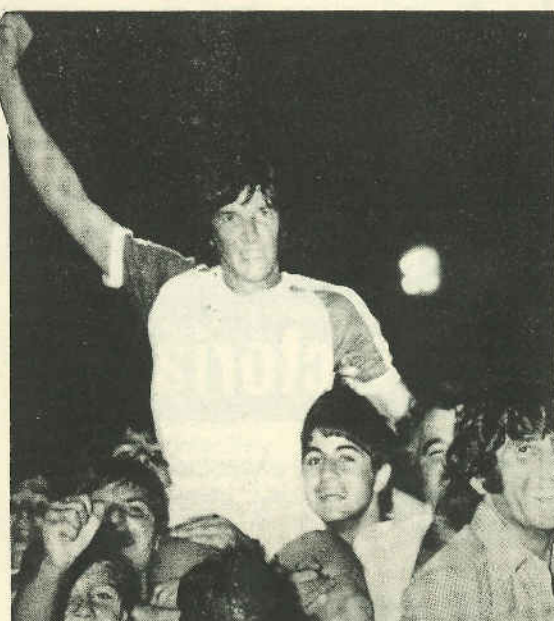
Soper was a trifle unlucky not to have scored a hat trick, as in the 78th minute after meeting a Jennings' cross, Soper headed onto the Leichhardt post.

Best performers for Olympic were Rowden, Phillips, Herbert, Scott and Soper, whilst for Leichhardt, Woodhouse, McBreen and skipper Mark Pullen were easily the pick.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier: Rogers, Ziras (Rowden 27th min), Scott: Phillips, Raskopoulos, Katholos: Soper, Koussas, Jennings.

LEICHHARDT: Parkes (Woodhouse 41st min): Carter, Bottalico, Pullen, Brown: Bradley, McBreen, Valeri: Morsello (41st Godzik), Giampaolo, De Ceglie.

Referee: Doug Rennie.
CROWD: 5,827.



Striker — Marshall SOPER



St. George striker DEZ MARTON

SYDNEY CITY SOCCER CLUB

Young players 13 to 16 wanted for N.S.W. Youth League teams.

TRIALS AND REGISTRATION

Saturday, Jan. 29, Feb. 5
10 a.m.-12 noon

Centennial Park fields 3 and 4
Right inside of DICKENS DRIVE

PLUS Wednesdays 26th January & 2nd February 5.30pm.

Queens Park, Darley Road, Randwick.
For further information, please phone Andrew Kemeny 305262 (bus hrs).

SYDNEY CITY JUNIORS ages 6-16 years, registration day Sunday February 6th 11am to 3pm, Lachlan Reserve, Centennial Park. Information: R. Klein 389 9080.

(Sydney City Juniors are sponsored by SERDERON P.L.)

N.S.W. SOCCER FEDERATION PRESENTS

THE **AMPOL** CUP

ROUND 1

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25
6.45 p.m. Ku-Ring-Gai Vs MELITA STADIUM
8.25 p.m. Manly Warringah Vs Polonia

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29
6.45 p.m. Riverwood Vs Melita Stadium
8.25 p.m. Avala Vs Inter Monaro

ROUND 2

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4
6.45 p.m. Marconi-Fairfield Vs MARCONI OVAL
8.25 p.m. S.S.C. Yugal Vs Auburn

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4
6.45 p.m. Sydney City Vs BARTON PARK
8.25 p.m. Sydney Olympic Vs Cant.-M'ville Oly.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5
6.45 p.m. Wollongong Vs MELITA STADIUM
8.25 p.m. Melita Eagles Vs Ku-Ring-Gai or Polonia

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5
6.45 p.m. Bankstown City Vs BARTON PARK
8.25 p.m. Leichhardt Vs St George B.S.C.

NSL must attract crowds — Sir Arthur

By Andrew Dettre

Everybody is tight-lipped about soccer's next big deal; even off the record hints are wrapped in carefully worded generalities. Wait, they say: on February 3 we will know everything.

On that day, the ASF, West Nally of London and Channel 7 will hold a joint press briefing in Sydney.

Sceptics can be forgiven for having that awful *deja vu* feeling about it: soccer, in recent years, has seen quite a few such occasions. Saviors of the game have come and gone; even some of their names have been forgotten.

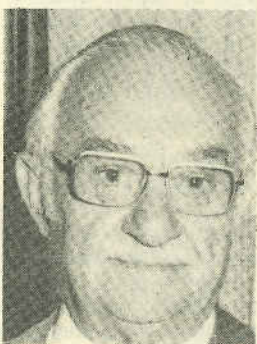
But this — well, this is different. Sir Arthur George, the ASF's 68-year-old president, says he has managed to clinch financial security for the ASF as well as the National Soccer League with a deal which, according to rumors, could be worth close to \$3 million.

So — let's wait and see. Meanwhile, the ASF chief predicts an exiting season for soccer. He is

certainly not among the doomsday men who anticipate the imminent collapse of the NSL.

Hot air

"We will probably have to make changes and replace eternally struggling clubs," he says. "Also, there is a good chance that the NSL will expand into new areas."



Sir Arthur George

"But, on the whole, even 1983 could be a reasonably successful year."

What about the rising costs, such as a further seven percent hike in the airfares, making it a 62% increase since January 1981?

He dismisses it with the gesture of a *grand seigneur*.

"I don't know why everybody is harping about the airfares," he snaps. "The total cost last season was under \$500,000 and now divide that by 16 clubs and it comes to about \$31,000."

"Sydney Olympic have just paid out \$40,000 for two new players."

"The NSL's collective expenditure is close to \$5 million a year. Some clubs — and we won't mention them — operate with an annual budget of \$400,000. So the airfares are not even 10 percent of their costs."

"Sure, they can cut costs, if they want to, in several areas. They can also generate more income."

"It's high time that the National League became strongly spectator-oriented instead of relying on subsidies and sponsors only."

"Paying customers are the lifeblood of pro soccer all over the world and clubs which cannot attract support must simply step down and let others have a go."

Recruits

Sir Arthur doesn't even try to suppress his pleasure over what he calls "his new team."

He has nothing but lavish praise for new ASF secretary Brian Emery and the new NSL manager Stefan Kamasz. But he is equally delighted to welcome to the fold Peter Sheehan, West Nally's man in Australia.

Sheehan, of the Parramatta Stadium project fame, will take charge of all

the commercial operations of the West Nally Group from where Australian soccer's millions are expected to flow.

"We have a giant backer and we have the right men in the right jobs," he says.

"All we want now is for the soccer public — clubs, officials, fans, the lot — to do what we so rarely do: to pull together for a common cause."

"Isn't it time to put Australian soccer on the map?"

Well, it is, really...



Peter Wilson with the 1982 Philips Cup his Leichhardt had won.

BOOM OR BUST FOR OLYMPIC?

DOCHERTY CONFIDENT

This will be a "boom or bust" season for Sydney Olympic who are now spending big to achieve success.

By Mike Mystakidis



Jim Ziras, one of the Olympic mainstays.

• Success needed

They have some early commitments: \$20,000 for Patikas, another \$20,000 for Soper, Tommy Docherty's initial expenses and the engagement of a full-time secretary in Steve Blatchford.

It's going to be difficult to generate an income of half a million — difficult but not impossible.

Docherty, for ever confident, believes that the team could average 10,000 paying spectators per home match. And that would very nicely cover the expenses.

There is no doubt about one thing: Olympic, more than any other team in Australia, has the potential to recoup even their vast expenditures.

All the Greek fans want is excitement, glamor — and success.

If Docherty and his helpers can provide all that, the club's big gamble could come off. Otherwise there could be tears at the end of the rainbow.

"I'm booking you for retaliating before you were fouled"



February clashes with Kiwis open '83 season

By Keith Gilmour

ASF's Sydney headquarters is one of quiet confidence in the outlook for the 1983 season.

Executive director Brian Emery and his staff obviously have their plates full, and their work-load will increase if the Young Socceroos win through to the World Youth finals in Mexico in June.

Emery said that the awards won from the Confederation of Australian Sports by the 1981 Australian Youth team and for the organisation of the World Youth Cup finals augured well for the code.

"It must have significance that competitor codes recognised our efforts. The ASF is grateful to so many enthusiasts who made that series a success," he added.

For the ASF, the 1983 season involves New Zealand in February, England in June and a four-nation tournament in October at senior national level.

Also, if the Youth team wins in Costa Rica, they must be provided with suitable opponents to prepare them for the final series in Mexico in June.

Kiwis twice

The only early season activity will be against New

Zealand at Olympic Park Melbourne on Sunday, February 27.

This is the return game, with the first clash taking place at Auckland on Tuesday, February 22.

Australia obviously has a point to prove after New Zealand's clear win in the last World Cup preliminaries at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

It will be up to the Victorian crowd to get right behind the Socceroos, who proved in Singapore by winning the Merlion Cup that they are well on the way back to the form we must expect from them.

Emery is delighted by the prospects of the England visit.

"We fixed the original dates to suit them, and now they have been altered at England's request to fit in after the British Championship and to allow manager Bobby Robson to come with the party."

"This indicates that the strength of the tourists will be better than we could have expected."

England in June

"England will come through the Middle East and will play in the United States on their return journey," he said.

Australia v England will be at Olympic Park, Melbourne on June 5, Lang Park, Brisbane on June 8 and at the Sydney Cricket Ground on June 12.

Under Rudi Gutendorf's reign, Australia lost 2-1 to England at the Sydney Cricket Ground in the Centenary Test in 1980.

Australia's chance to improve the status of the Australia v England games came with the cancellation of England's proposed South American tour.

A good series would lay the groundwork for the Italian or Argentinian tour of Australia, which ASF promoters West Nally Ltd are preparing for 1984.

The wraps are on the late October four-nation tournament, but China and one of the rising African countries, Cameroon, could be amongst the starters.

This tournament would involve matches in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide and Melbourne.

Emery said that early thoughts on the format could involve a round-robin with a final and play-off for third place.

One round, probably the second, would see one match in Brisbane and the other in Adelaide.

• Revenue down

The most puzzling factor about Sydney Olympic's fiscal policy is that they appear to be spending money they don't have, posing the question: who will pay those huge bills, when and how?

Some feel it will be the social club but this is unlikely; they have their own financial problems and are struggling to survive.

Takings have dropped sharply in the last two years and instead of playing the role of a benefactor, they had to become beneficiaries: soccer had to support the club...

Now with random breath-testing cutting into the club takings, the situation is likely to get worse.

Club incomes have already nosedived further, as a club spokesman told us.

Of course, the club's financial commitments don't stop at the transfers. They will also have to find the money to keep the team running and to repay whatever debt was left over from last year.

Pessimistic calculations show that Olympic's commitments for the year could exceed \$500,000.

NEXT WEEK:

All about the 16 NSL clubs!

AMPOL CUP STARTS AT MELITA STADIUM

At last,
it's a
real Cup

NSW State League clubs have been given a boosted chance to progress a fair way in the 1983 Sydney Ampol Cup.

The top half of the draw has only two NSL teams, Marconi and Wollongong — while the bottom is crowded by four.

One doesn't know if this was a seeded, 'arranged' or properly drawn 'draw' — but is sure looks lopsided.

Croatia, for example, have been given an almost unmolested passage into the semi-finals if they can overcome the usually disorganised Yugal and either Manly or Blacktown.

Meanwhile, in the bottom half, St George and Olympic as well as Sydney City and Leichhardt are likely to meet in Round 2...

Despite this, the NSL

teams are likely to provide the ultimate winner.

It's almost impossible to assess the chances properly, without having seen the teams in action in 1983.

However, judging by the comings and goings in the various clubs, one has to assume that either St George or Sydney Olympic will start favorites.

In the first, preliminary round of matches —

necessary to reduce the field to the more manageable 16 — all played at the Melita Stadium, Polonia, Blacktown, Monaro and Sutherland are tipped to win their way through to the second round.

Riverwood's entire future is under a very ominous cloud and rumors have it that they may find it difficult to continue as a semi-pro outfit.

The draw below shows in a graphic form how the teams can progress towards the final.

You have to substitute the winners' names, as marked, for the second round.

North NSW League hastens slowly

By Myles Hay

Newly elected Northern NSW Soccer Federation President David Williams said this week that the 1983 season will be one of consolidation rather than great achievement in the north.

Williams, who is a long serving director of the Federation affirmed that improvements last year will have a beneficial effect on the stability of the code.

The formation of the State League involving teams from areas such as Tamworth, Coffs Harbour and Armidale had many critics, but the President felt that in years to come a regional league may be necessary to accommodate other teams from Northern NSW.

Armidale dropped out of the competition midway through last year to leave an eleven team competition.

For the 1983 season, Doyalson RSL, after winning the second division series, have been promoted to the upper echelon.

Northern NSW directors are looking into some form of sponsorship for the 1983 season which will kick off before Easter.

The composition of the board this season is President: David Williams; Secretary: Ernie Lamb; Treasurer: Ken McNeil; Directors: Brain Gill, Tom Morris, Alan Tredinnick, Alan Lamb, and John Jones.

It is hoped to enter the Northern NSW Under 19 representative side in the State-wide Youth League.

Several promising young players have been approached to form this combination on the basis that the strong opposition provided by the Youth League sides, which invariably include some first team National League squad members, would be of immense value in building up a formidable rep squad.



"Waste of time giving them the slow handclap — they'll never hear you for the booing."

It might have taken it 26 years — but, at long last, the Ampol Cup has become a true cup contest.

This year, for the first time, it will be conducted on a knock-out basis, as cups should.

The Ampol Cup has become the traditional curtain-raiser to the Australian soccer season.

It was in 1958 that Ampol, then under the guidance of its founder Bill (later Sir William) Walkley, decided to sponsor the tournament.

However, the idea was born a year earlier when the new-born NSW Federation of Soccer Clubs, a mere few weeks after its bloodless revolution against the old Association, staged a cup — known as the Kennard Cup.

Most of the matches were staged at Lidcombe Oval, under flickering "floodlights" — yet they drew healthy crowds.

Over the years, the Ampol Cup's formula and regulations were changed frequently.

Since the start of the Philips League, a new controversy has been

added by the annual riddle: will the PSL teams start or not?

Well, they did in 1979 and 1982 but stayed away in other seasons.

Last year, due to the abnormally early start of the PSL season, the two competitions overlapped, creating new heights in confusion and bitterness.

Some teams, preferring to concentrate on the PSL program, even fielded full reserve teams in some Cup matches.

Eventually one of these — St. George, by now with a full side — actually won the thing...

Below we list all the placegetters of previous Ampol Cups. In some years there was no match played for third place.

This year St. George have a chance to equal Prague's record of six Ampol Cup triumphs. The Saints have won the Cup five times, edging ahead of Leichhardt (then APIA) and Sydney City (then Hakoah) whose tally stands at four.

	1	2	3	4
1957	Hakoah	Lane Cove	Canterbury	Syd. Austr.
1958	Canterbury	Hakoah	Corrimal	Prague
1959	Prague	Auburn	Canterbury	Corrimal
1960	Budapest	APIA	Prague	Hakoah
1961	Prague	Hakoah	Canterbury	APIA-eqls
1962	Prague	Canterbury	APIA	Yugal
1963	Yugal	Auburn	APIA	Prague
1964	Prague	APIA	Budapest	Croatia
1965	Prague	Yugal	Croatia	Hakoah
1966	APIA	Hakoah	Prague	Yugal
1967	St. George	Hakoah	APIA	P. Hellenic
1968	Hakoah	St. George	Prague &	APIA-equals
1969	Prague	P. Hellenic	APIA	Hakoah
1970	APIA	Hakoah	St. George	Sth. Coast
1971	Wests	Marconi	APIA	Yugal
1972	St. George	Prague	Marconi &	Wests. eqs.
1973	Hakoah	St. George	Yugal	Auburn
1974	APIA	Auburn	St. George	P. Hellenic
1975	St. George	Marconi	P. Hellenic	Balgownie
1976	Wests	Hakoah	Marconi	St. George
1977	*Avala	Sutherland	Croatia	Yugal
1978	*Sutherland	Melita	Arncliffe	Monaro
1979	Syd. City	Melita	APIA	St. George
1980	*Olympic	Croatia	Sutherl. &	Bankst. eql.
1981	*Sutherl.	Polonia	St. Geo. &	Croatia, eql.
1982	St. George	Croatia	Marconi	Blackt. eql.

*PSL clubs did not take part that year.

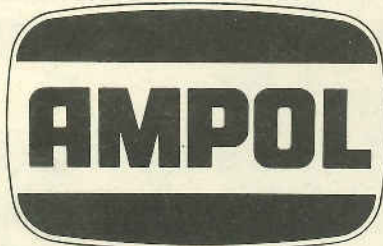
TRIP TO EUROPE



YOU can win a free trip to Europe at the end of the season. Yes, you, the reader — not a player or a coach.

On top of it, you will have a chance to win a prize each week.

Watch AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY next week for details and conditions about our SUPER QUIZ.



Newcastle

Bellamy now Austral's friend

Austral United have signed Ossie Bellamy, one of the North's most colourful soccer characters, as coach for the 1983 season.

Austral's applied to appear in the Northern NSW first division this season, before Doyalson RSL were granted the spot vacated by Armidale.

Bellamy has played with several sides in the Newcastle area including Newcastle KB United, Weston, Belmont-Swansea United and Hamilton Red Star.

If his enthusiasm for the task in front of him is any criterion, Austral's should

romp away with the second division title.

Unfortunately, the club has lost many of its top players in the past two seasons, two of them Les Trew and Jim Dryden being largely responsible for Doyalson's great premiership winning run last year.

The Milosevic brothers, Dino and Ross, after spending a few months with Red Star Belgrade in Yugoslavia, will join new clubs from Austral's.

Tony Baj, a former Austral favourite, has been appointed coach of the Austral Under 18 side.

CADET JOURNALIST

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Good command of English and an ability to write are essential.

First year cadetship offered.

The successful applicant would join a team of professional sports writers on Australia's best soccer weekly.

Please apply in writing to —

The Editor

Australian Soccer Weekly

261 Broadway, Sydney.

YOUNG 'ROOS KNOW THE WAY TO SAN JOSE . . .

The Young Socceroos will win the final elimination round in San Jose, Costa Rica and go forward to the finals of the World Youth Championships in Mexico in June.

This is my confident prediction as the big battle in the Banana Republic in the Caribbean nears.

Having travelled to Acapulco recently with this talented bunch of young Aussies I have watched them in action against the best the world can offer.

And, along with thousands of amazed Mexican sports fans, have marvelled over their ability to

draw against Argentina and an 8-1 win over the USA highlighted their ability.

The success gained by the Young Socceroos in the past few months has been a shot in the arm for our game and has brought it back into the limelight.

This team has skill and is well drilled and coached by Scheinflug and his assistant Raul Blanco.

It also has a fighting spirit second to none.

From Tom Anderson in Costa Rica

draw against Argentina and an 8-1 win over the USA highlighted their ability.

Our youngsters downed Costa Rica 2-1 but the Central Americans will be an entirely different proposition in their own backyard.

As the coaches of the three participating nations will have complete dos-



Les Scheinflug

YOUNG 'ROOS ON TOUR

Australia's World Youth Cup bid continues soon in the Central American republic of Costa Rica — and you, too, can be "there."

Our man, Tommy Anderson, is with the team in San Jose, "roughing" it in the exotically named Playboy Hotel.

Start reading his dispatches about the Young 'Roos in our next week's issue.

siers on each team, the series will no doubt develop into a battle of tactics.

Les Scheinflug and Raul Blanco will more than hold their own.

Having watched Scheinflug work very closely during the four weeks in Acapulco, I have complete respect for his ability as national coach.

Also with FIFA having made the decision to appoint leading South American and European re-

ferences to control the series there should be no problems in this department.

But in a tournament such as this injuries will play a big part in the outcome.

Given an even break with injuries, Australia will win.

For success is that old ABC — ability, breaks and courage — the hallmark of Les Scheinflug's Young Socceroos on assignment in the Caribbean.

Australia is fortunate to have skipper Tom McCulloch as lynch-pin of the defence as the Youth team goes into action against Israel and then Costa Rica at San Jose.

His potential has never been seen fully at home as minor injuries blighted his 1982 season with Marconi.

National team coach Les Scheinflug is in no doubt about McCulloch's capabilities.

"Another 10 players like Tommy and we could take on any country at all with confidence," Scheinflug said as he left with the team for the United States.

McCulloch, a midfielder in the NSL, has been converted into a fine libero for World Youth Championship games.

The national coach is naturally happy to have Jim Patikas back in midfield after losing him with injury for the December series in Port Moresby.

Patikas has that explosive force that labels him as a future Ray Baartz or John Warkiss or even better.

Russell Stewart is the midfielder who could miss a place due to Patikas' return, but he certainly wasn't the unluckiest of the squad.

South Australian midfielder-striker Joe Mullen twisted an ankle and had to be replaced at the last minute by Paul Daley, the capable youngster from Melita Eagles in Sydney.

Potential

Dr Brian Corrigan examined Mullen and said that it would be at least two weeks before he could kick a ball.

The Youth team has come a long way since last May and a deal of their progress is due to many of them being together at the Australian Institute of Sport under Jimmy Shoulder.

Earlier the players showed individual flair, but their dedication has now drawn them together as a team in which individualism is a secondary force.

There is no doubt that, if they qualify for Mexico by

winning in San Jose, this team will have really excelled.

On previous performances there is little between the competing teams, with Costa Rica having a home advantage.

It must be admitted, however, that weather conditions should be satisfactory and no country is likely to be disadvantaged.

Israel has not yet been beaten by Australia at youth level.

The Australian Soccer Federation displayed foresight by pressing FIFA to restrict referees to those from Europe and South America.

The World Youth Championship is too important to rest with local men. Even as it is, referees will come under pressure from huge home crowds, and FIFA itself must see that international refereeing generally is lifted on to a higher plane than has been the case recently.

Strikers

The stadium in San Jose holds up to 50,000, with temperatures expected to be in the 18/26°C range.

Fortunately for Australia, the strike force has never been stronger.

Rod Brown, David Lowe, Rene Licata and Danny Wright have formidable talents, and Frank Farina could move forward to advantage.

The defence has moulded well, and goalkeeper Chris Hummel has not let the team down under pressure.

There is no doubt that Raul Blanco, Scheinflug's assistant, has few peers in Australia as a skills coach. He has contributed greatly to the prospects of the Australian team.

The squad now on tour is: Goalkeepers: Chris Hummel, Anthony Franken, defence: Ralph Maier, Ray Vlietstra, Tom McCulloch, Frank Faraone, Paul Daley, Roy Jones, Luciano Fabrizio, midfield: Jim Patikas, Russell Stewart, Frank Farina, Marcelo Salvo, Fabio Incantalupo, strikers: Rene Licata, David Lowe, Rod Brown, Danny Wright.



produce a winning brand of football when pressure was at its greatest.

Since national coach Les Scheinflug assembled this squad it has gone from success to success, in Mexico and Port Moresby.

Failure is not known to these players and is not a word in their dictionary.

They have also been well advised by coach Scheinflug that this is the last step on the road to the

And in the intense pressure that will be brought to bear in San Jose this will be important.

No pushover

But don't imagine this series will be a pushover for our boys — far from it.

For Israel and Costa Rica also played in the series in Acapulco and are no slouches.

The Israelis were not in Australia's Group but a

WHEN COSTA RICANS THRILLED SYDNEY



Two Costa Rican players during their 1959 visit to Sydney.

Surprisingly, Australia's contact with Costa Rican soccer goes back a fair way.

In May 1959, their champion club Deportivo Saprissa, made a tour of NSW, sponsored by the then outlawed NSW Federation. The Central Americans could not visit other states which were under the old — since defunct — Australian Association control.

Saprissa played NSW twice in Sydney — and lost both games, the first 4-2.

As a matter of interest, this was the NSW squad: Lord, Bill Henderson, Sherwin, E. Jones, Curry, Aird, Madden, Vasvary, Watkiss, Jaros, Scheinflug, Saggi, Moore, Baumgartner, Tamandi and Morrow.

At the same time that Saprissa were in Sydney, the Association's "Australian XI" played the Scottish Heart of Midlothian in Brisbane.

And the Aussie team had to wear the shirts of the local Ipswich club because somebody forgot to arrange for a set of shirts...

To make it worse — those Ipswich shirts were wet and soggy as they were used in the curtain-raiser...

Finally, a piece of nostalgia: the first Saprissa match at the Sports Ground drew a crowd of 18,500, paying the then princely sum of £7,000 at the gates...

AMONG THE GIRLS

—with Don Balmain

Two well known women soccer identities have received Life Membership during the past soccer season.

They are Mrs Irene Sneyd, the Treasurer of the AWSA, and Mrs Betty Hoar, the Secretary of the same Association.

Irene Sneyd is well known on the Central Coast of NSW for her interest in women's soccer.

Her interest in the code goes back 25 years when her three sons played for the Sydney club of East Bankstown.

The life membership for Irene will be her fourth for recognition to soccer.

In 1970, she moved to

the Central Coast, joined a soccer club and immediately took an official position.

The first life membership was awarded to Irene when she was given the honor by the Budgewoi Soccer Club in 1976.

That year, she turned her considerable organisational talents to the formation of the Central Coast Women's Soccer Association.

She was elected to the position of Treasurer of the AWSA at Darwin in 1979 and has held the position for five years.

Recently, she was made Life Member of the Central Coast Women's Soccer

Association for being a founder member and giving signal service to the code.

Betty Hoar is also in the news where Life Membership is concerned.

The only English woman on Australian Women's Soccer Association executive, Betty started playing in 1968 back in Luton in a team that eventually had three girls play for England.

Twelve years ago, Betty and her husband migrated to Australia with their two children.

Although Mick, her husband, still played soccer after his arrival, Betty had no team to join until 1974. Her second son was only six weeks old when she was asked to help start the Greenborough side in Victoria.

Betty was elected onto the first committee of the Victorian Women's Soccer Association and was the team manager for the State side.

Four years later she helped form the Richmond club and spent two years with that side.

Betty is now with the Watsonia club in the Melbourne competition and plays in the same team as her 15-year-old daughter, Tracey.

She was granted Life Membership to the Victorian Women's Soccer Association this year for her outstanding services.

Betty says that she still enjoys playing soccer. She is now the 'granny' to the babes of the team.

High praise for Aussies

The January issue of London's respected "World Soccer" has some nice things to say about Australia's Youth team.

Its South American reporter Eric Weil comments: "... Australia ... the revelation of the / Joao Havelange / tournament ...

"Australia caused a surprise by holding defending champions and hosts Mexico to 1-1 and Brazil to a 2-2 and then beating Costa Rica 2-1 to share the group lead with Mexico.

"The Australian team surprised everybody with their skilful play (which even matched the Brazilians) and fitness and they put the seal on an excellent performance by taking third place with an easy 3-0 win over Mexico ...

"Australia played the counter-attacking game well with fast passing and midfielder Jim Patikas standing out as a playmaker ..."

PROGRAM IN COSTA RICA

This is the full match schedule of the final elimination round in the World Youth Cup:

- January 26, Wednesday: Australia v Israel
- January 28, Friday: Israel v Costa Rica
- January 30, Sunday: Costa Rica v Australia
- February 1, Tuesday: Israel v Australia
- February 3, Thursday: Australia v Costa Rica
- February 6, Sunday: Costa Rica v Israel

All matches start at 8 pm local time — except those on January 30 and February 6 which kick off at 3 pm. Costa Rica is 17 hours behind Eastern Standard Time.

According to the program, every team plays the other two twice. The country finishing on top of this mini-league qualifies for the finals in Mexico in June.

Two masterful displays in 1982 were enough for Terry Greedy to be rated as the Saints No 1 goalie for the new season. Mike Fraser played in all the 30 PSL matches but was replaced in the Top Four series final and grand final by Greedy who, belatedly perhaps, proved Frank Arok right when he rated him, in 1981, as the "best goalie in Sydney."

★ ★ ★

Former colleague and publicist Steve Blatchford has become the new, fulltime secretary-manager of Sydney Olympic.

★ ★ ★

Steve Wooddin, the skilful Kiwi international, has rejoined South Melbourne where in 1982 he played a handful of games before quitting for the Shakey Isles.

★ ★ ★

Marconi have broken new ground by having a woman as their soccer secretary: Susan Whitehead, former TV production assistant on Channel 0/28.

★ ★ ★

Not bad going: of the five Sydney-based NSL clubs,

three start the season with new coaches and only the Saints and the Slickers have stuck to their "old" man.

★ ★ ★

Former Australian international and 1974 World Cup player Col Curran has left Newcastle United and will play for West Wallsend in the Northern NSW League.

★ ★ ★

Rumor has it that former Sydney City boss Andrew Lederer will be back in action soon — in another capacity: the ASF has earmarked him for a prestige position. More later.

★ ★ ★

A revolutionary and drastic step: Leichhardt have decided not to pay any signing on fees this year but have offered increased winning bonuses to their players, with the obvious motto: "Let them earn it."

★ ★ ★

John Kosmina, 27, the brilliant Sydney striker, couldn't agree on a new contract with his club and could be on his way to greener pastures. The likely asking price: \$30,000.

Slickers still in mild state of coma

By David Jack

Sydney's Hakoah Soccer club — which plays, and plays exceptionally well, under the name of Sydney City — has experienced many ups and downs since a pioneering group of Jewish soccer lovers was responsible for its formation more than 40 years ago.

Yet in all those years nothing quite as sensational or as traumatic as the events of November and December 1982 is recorded in the club's history.

While it was known, and accepted, that many clubs in the National Soccer League were experiencing financial difficulties, nobody classed the free-spending, always affluent, Sydney City among the strugglers: the City Slickers would surely be the last team to wave the white flag of surrender.

So it came as a tremendous shock in mid-November when the Board of the Hakoah club, generous sponsors of Sydney City, decided to withdraw their support for soccer. And, without such support, Sydney City could pull out of the National League.

What followed in November and December received considerable media coverage. There is no need to go into it all again in detail here.

Briefly, though, emergency meetings were called by supporters of the Slickers. They protested vehemently about the Board's capitulation and worked the clock round to whip up sufficient enthusiasm to convince the Hakoah club to change its mind.

And that is exactly what did happen. Hakoah decided it WOULD enter a Sydney City Slickers team in the 1983 National League, albeit on a much-reduced budget.

"Dictator" resigns

"Those financial restrictions, plus the hard-to-take inference that some Hakoah directors wanted Slickers out of soccer, caused the all-powerful 'godfather' Andrew Lederer to resign on the spot. Lederer had been the guiding light, almost a dictator, of Slickers for more than a decade.

The 1983 Slickers will kick-off with a completely new Soccer committee, headed by a comparative-

ly unknown retail businessman, Jessie Tracton, as chairman.

The danger is that the new committee, inspired by its success in steering Slickers out of soccer oblivion, will run the team quite differently from the way it was run during the remarkably successful Andrew Lederer era.

Three people, in particular, are involved in this Sydney City story — Lederer, coach Eddie Thomson and general factotum Harry Lakmaker. I spoke to all three last week.



Harry Lakmaker

Lederer looks back on the November upheaval with much regret. I asked him why did it happen?

He said: "Over the years, the composition of the Board has slowly changed. The old guard is going. There are not so many people now who, like me, would dedicate their lives, or give their lives, for soccer.

"I was shocked when I realised we were going to pull out of the sport, but that was the majority decision of the Hakoah directors and I had to accept it. I resigned as team manager.

"Perhaps I thought that, from the outside, I could fight even harder for the future of Hakoah soccer. I also reasoned that, as a leader, with a passion for winning, it would not be

possible to lead a divided Board of Directors or soccer committee.

"In the past 13 years, we have built up the most professional set-up, at senior and junior levels, in Australian soccer. It has been a story of unbroken success. Anything less than that does not interest me."

Harry again

Harry Lakmaker, a former Hakoah secretary, has once again been hauled out of retirement to play a key role in the new Slickers set-up.

Lakmaker says he has no specific title. "You could say I am in charge of all player problems," he said.

"We are economising in every way. But it will take time. I am sure 1983 will be a more expensive year than 1984. We will honor our existing player contracts but then there will be changes.

"For instance, if a leading player is injured, his place will be filled by one of our youngsters — not by another experienced man. These are sensible moves.

"I admit I was shocked when I heard Sydney City would resign from the NSL. This is not any ordinary team. Without exception, we are the most successful club in the history of Australian soccer. We have had the greatest players and the greatest coaches.

"Ever since the Philips League was formed, Sydney City's record has continued to be the envy of everyone. Champions in 1977, 1980, 1981 and 1982, Top Four winners in 1978 and 1979. All this, plus the countless titles Hakoah collected before the sport went national.

"Looking back on some of our former players, I think of Billy Walsh, Herbert Ninaus, Karl Jaros, Matt Woods, Peter Fuzes, Allan Marnoch, Johnny Watkiss — and so many more. Today, of course, several of the country's greatest players wear Sydney City Slickers colors.

"I am not living in the past when I look back on the great years since Hakoah's formation in 1939. I believe we still have a big future. Our major problem is to cast the net wider for spectators.

"Right now, the new committee is offering family season ticket membership for \$100 a year, which allows a supporter, his wife and children to attend all home games and also enjoy social functions with players. The scheme is attracting good response."

Ex-players

Harry Lakmaker believes the team's success is largely due to stability in coaching.

"We like to employ our former players as first grade coaches and this has brought enormous success. The side has been coached by ex-stars like Matt Woods, Gerry Chaldi, Doug Holden and Eddie Thomson and it has paid off."

The present coach Eddie Thomson accepts that 1983 will be a difficult year for several reasons.

In the past, Eddie could buy virtually any star player he wanted. He worked in perfect harmony with Andrew Lederer, who was always a firm and speedy decision-maker.

Now Thomson will have to go to a new committee if he wants to secure a new player. That could be more difficult. Indeed, one of the most significant comments he made when we met was: "I am going to miss Andrew Lederer more than I'll miss Jimmy Patikas!"



Jim Patikas, now with Sydney Olympic, after a long and bitter haggle over his transfer.

(Patikas has been transferred to Sydney Olympic for \$20,000.)

Thomson was in Canberra, staying with Jimmy Cant, when the balloon went up at Sydney City. His wife phoned him at 7am on a Saturday to tell him there would be an emergency meeting at the Hakoah club that very night. So Eddie hurried home.

Mrs Thomson had told him there were rumours that Sydney City would withdraw from soccer, but neither Eddie Thomson nor his players could believe it.

In fact, some of the star players thought the meeting was being called to announce that they would be offered full-time professional contracts.

Despite the upheaval, Thomson remains confident that he will be able to field a side capable of winning another NSL championship.

"It'll be hard," he admits. "Some of the players are still shell-shocked over what happened in November and they may take a while to settle back to normal form. But they're training well. We'll overcome all problems."

Thomson could be right. But one thing is certain. Sydney City Slickers will never be quite the same club again. Nobody should expect it after the strange happenings of November 1982.

Early 1982 he was struggling to become a regular in Sydney City — today he is one of the highest paid players in Australia. This is Jim Patikas, the 18-year-old midfield sensation whose new club, Olympic, reportedly pays him \$12,000 for two years plus weekly bonuses.

★ ★ ★

St George's former Hungarian 'B' international Lajos Koritar is soon returning to Budapest. Koritar, 32, played for 11 seasons in the Hungarian first division with MTK. Now Saints boss Frank Arok claims that the polished midfielder simply cannot cope with a heavy training schedule. Just in case you wondered why Hungary have slipped in world soccer...

★ ★ ★

Doug Brown, 18, at present with the Young Socceroos in Costa Rica, cost Marconi \$10,000 from Auburn.

★ ★ ★

Peter Wilson, the former Australian skipper, has definitely retired. The brilliant Leichhardt veteran underwent surgery for his troublesome back in the off season and now his medical specialists have advised him to quit.

★ ★ ★

Sydney Olympic's Johnny Thomson, with enormous help from wife Jenny, put on a "welcome back" party for Tommy and Mary Docherty at the Thomsons' Collaroy Beach unit. Responding to a toast from the host, The Doc said: "I think Olympic will have a fabulous year. We've got top players, top supporters and the best coach in Australia — we can't fail!"

★ ★ ★

The cult of "E.T." has spread to Sydney City's Bondi Beach headquarters where coach Eddie Thomson is now known as "E.T." by the players. When a young player asked Australian captain John Kosmina why Eddie was called "E.T." he was told: "Because he's always giving us Extra (bloody) Training!"

★ ★ ★

Security is tight these days at the Hakoah club in Bondi with memories still fresh on that car park bomb incident. All cars entering the car park are closely examined, with everything scrutinised in the vehicle, under the bonnet and inside the boot.

STATE LEAGUE REPORTS

PRE SEASON TOURNAMENT

By John Economos.

A new mini-tournament was launched at a Press conference held at the APLA club last week. The tournament will be called the Super Challenge Cup and four NSL teams are playing in it.

The four teams participating are Leichhardt, St George, Wollongong and Sydney Olympic.

The Super Challenge Cup will be played over three days (see page 8 advertisement) all as double headers in round-robin style.

Venues for these matches will be the St George Stadium and Ziem Park, Corimal (NSW South Coast).

Dates for these double-headers are Sunday, January 23, Wednesday, 26, and Sunday 30.

The Super Challenge Cup will be sponsored by well known jewellers from Leichhardt, Cerrone Jewellers who will donate a special Cup to the eventual tournament winner.

As well as the Cup, the managing director of Cerrone Jewellers, Nicola Cerrone, will personally design and make a gold medallion set on an 18-carat gold chain, valued at \$1,000 which will be presented to the Best and Fairest player in the whole tournament.

The Tournament rulings are as follows:

1. Rounds 1 & 2 will be played over two 40-minute halves.
2. Round 3 (final round) will be played over 45-minute halves.
3. There will be no extra time.
4. Two points for a win and one point for a draw.
5. Format of the tournament will be as a Round Robin. The team with the most points at the end of the series will be declared the winner of the Super Challenge Cup.

At the Press conference, Leichhardt's football chairman, Renato Orsatti, announced that Leichhardt this season will be captained by central defender Mark Pullen who replaces former Australian World Cup captain and sweeper, Peter Wilson.

Meanwhile Wollongong have announced their captain for the tournament, their excellent goalkeeper, Jimmy Preston.

St George will again be skippered by former Australian international, Peter Stone who will command the Saints from midfield.

Australia's 1981 World Youth Championship captain, Peter Raskopoulos, will be Sydney Olympic's 1983 skipper.

Olympic are displaying their new signings, Marshall Soper, Ricky Herbert but not Jimmy Patikas who is this week in Costa Rica with the Australian Youth Squad.

St George's manager, Frank Arok commented on the Super Challenge Cup:

"I am very happy about this tournament to open the 1983 soccer season."

"Last year we at St George had a reasonably happy season when we finished in second place in the PSL Championship, won the 1982 NSW Ampol Cup, won The Australian Soccer Weekly Challenge Trophy as well as the 1982 PSL Grand Final."

"Yes, I would say it wasn't too bad a season for us."

Johnson back at the Coast

Mike Johnson has returned "home" after being appointed coach of Fairy Meadow.

Johnson gained the job from the strong field of contenders and will take over from Casey de Bruin, who has gone to Blacktown City.

Wollongong is "home" to Johnson because he loves being involved in the game in the area, right from his early days with South Coast United.

Johnson scored twice in the 4-0 Grand Final win over APLA back in 1963 and has had strong ties with the Illawarra region since.

He rates the talent in the region second to none and will be giving some of the promising Fairy Meadow players every chance to do well.

"I have always felt the talent in Wollongong is tremendous for the size of the place and already some big names have come to Sydney from the Coast over the years," he said.

Fairy Meadow have won the Sydney first division grand final for the last two

years and Johnson is confident this will be the year of promotion to State League.

The club is retaining last year's successful side with the possible exception of Reg Chilby and Mick Richardson.

Chilby is out of work after being retrenched in his job as a miner and could move elsewhere to find employment.

At centre back he has been a key player with Fairy Meadow and last season was voted player of the year.

Chilby has the ability to make it with a National League side but Fairy Meadow have indicated they won't be letting him go cheaply.

Midfielder Richardson may retire but Johnson hopes to talk him in to having one more season.

Fairy Meadow again will be based at Wollongong Police Boys' Oval this season.

South Melb., Croatia to rule the roost

From Peter Desira

South Melbourne to put in Melbourne's strongest ever bid for the National League title, Preston to struggle, Melbourne Croatia to re-establish itself as a force and Box Hill to plummet straight back into the Metropolitan League.

That is the shape of things to come in Victorian soccer if pre-season form is any guide.

South Melbourne has given Rale Rasic the chance - with an open cheque - to re-establish himself as the top coach in Australia.

And Rasic seems intent on not letting it slip through his fingers by amassing the strongest squad the club has ever had in its eight years of NSL competition.

The interstate contacts have included Steve Sumner, Graham Heys and Alan Boath all of West Adelaide, and the Sydney Olympic pair Kenny Wilson and Jim Redfern but few players are willing to move across the border especially since it's getting so much harder to find jobs with the current recession.

On top of the recruiting mishaps Ollerton has lost players from last year's squad notably Alan Whittle who was made available for transfer immediately after losing the assistant coaching position.

Others to go will be Richard Miranda. He was offered to Melbourne Croatia as the makeweight for the Kenny Murphy deal.



Kyri Kyriakouleas, Footscray.

\$14,000 Preston coughed up for him two years ago.

But that is far from enough and the success hungry Preston supporters might be in for a bleak year unless officials can pull out all the stops to strengthen the squad.

Bright Hopes

The one club which has struggled in the national league - Footscray - appear destined for a better year mainly because of the wily Bobby McLachlan who has made a habit of snapping up bargains in the transfer market.

Already he has created two temporary visa vacancies by allowing Milan Kojic and Slobodan Popovic to move to Fawkner and has tried to fill the spots with John Dowie and Joe Carroll.

All the old players are still at the club and training



Charlie Egan, South Melbourne.

Arrivals so far have been Kenny Murphy, a target of all four Melbourne NSL clubs and destined to join Preston until Rasic put his nose in, Oscar Crino, back from Hong Kong, and apparently no longer carrying the swollen head he developed after starring for the Young Socceroos in the World Youth Championship, and Bobby Russell, probably the best right back in the country, at good value at 14,000.

On top of that Steve Wooddin has been wooed back from New Zealand, while Alun Evans and John Stevenson, another two players discarded by Tommy Docherty have gained a new lease of life with the five night a week training schedule Rasic is sticking to.

Hapless Preston

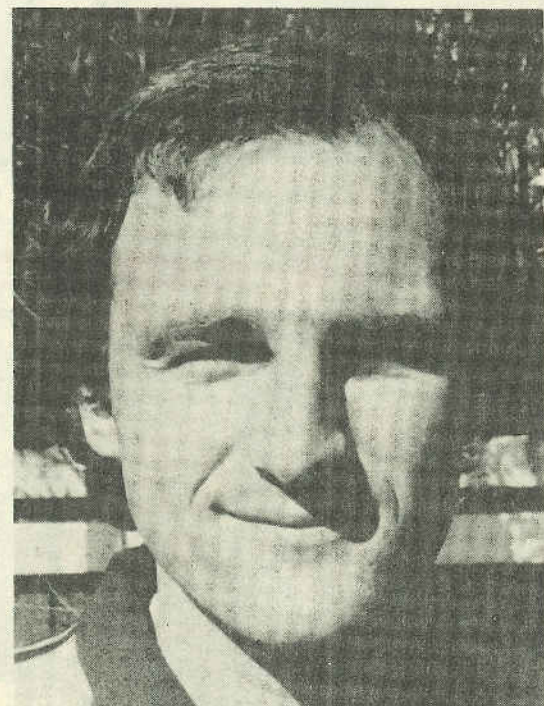
On the other hand little has gone right for Preston during the close season and coach Peter Ollerton has been left wondering what he has to do to attract a star signing to the club.

The club's close season target list reads like a who's who of Australian soccer.

Jim Campbell of Heidelberg, Alan Davidson of South Melbourne, Zoran Ilioski of Footscray, were the early candidates but the first two renewed their contracts while the club was tired of Ilioski's annual game of playing Preston off against Footscray for a bigger contract.

Steve Beech and Robert Cullen.

Ollerton is unperturbed and says he will bide his time waiting for locals to come on the market although the 9-0 thrashing the team copped from



Jimmy Tansey, Heidelberg.

South Melbourne in a friendly recently will not have lifted spirits much at the club.

One midfielder who will return to the fold will be Isaac Farrell who has transferred his work from Canberra to finally settle in Melbourne and possibly start repaying some of the

but there is bound to be a big turnover as the season progresses.

There have been changes also at Heidelberg where Len McKendry departed in a big hurry in December and has since been replaced by Ken Morton, the former Wollongong coach.



John Todorovski, Preston.

One player likely to leave the Bergers is John Yzen-doorn who has been in NSW for talks with Sydney City and Leichhardt.

In the State League Melbourne Croatia has lured back John Gardiner as coach for what must be the most surprising move of the close season.

Gardiner has been at the club twice before and both times the association has ended with a big row and a lengthy dispute over his departure. But this time he has been given assurance of a free hand in the coaching and if the club sticks to that promise they are already halfway to re-establishing Croatia as the driving force of the league.

One player Gardiner has been trying to get is Graham French from Juventus but he also still has to get his own clearance from Green Gully.

McKendry moves

The Greens aren't keen on losing Gardiner but will settle for a swap with Steve Short who has trained with Gully and is keen to re-

sume after a year out of the game.

Gully has appointed Len McKendry as coach - a move which has prompted the departure of Gus MacLeod to Croydon City. But the club has already found a possible replacement in Bobby Toal the striker who has quit the Sunshine George Cross combine.

The merger between the two clubs has worked well so far and coach Tony Vella has set himself a top four target.

But the task might not be as simple a it may seem considering that several top players from the two squads have already said they will leave.

Already Rob Nelson has joined North Dandenong as player coach, Toal is training at Gully while established regulars like Nick Lowe and Norrie Pate are looking for clubs in the eastern suburbs.

One eastern suburban club which won't be able to afford them is Box Hill.

The club has achieved nigh on the impossible

gaining promotion with a home-grown bunch of youngsters on a shoestring budget.

If kept together the team could hold its head above water in the State League but its leading scorer Scott Patterson has been trialling at Preston and it will be hard to keep players like Ian Roodhouse and Pedro Ramos there once the other clubs realise the potential and start talking in dollar signs to the youngsters.

For this reason it is hard to see the Hillmen surviving more than one season in top company and at this stage they must be odds on favourites for the drop.

Another team to struggle will be Albion Rovers where the new wage cuts have caused a mass exit from the club.

New coach Hugh Murney may stem the tide and will probably sign Peter Dixon from Green Gully but that is still not enough to cover for the departure of Kevin Lloyd, John Creany, Kenny Smart, and Gary Cutler.

THE SUPER CHALLENGE CUP

**VENUES: ST GEORGE STADIUM — ROCKDALE
ZIEMS PARK, SHORT ST, CORRIMAL**

Round 1 — 23rd January 1983

7 pm **St George** Vs Wollongong

ST GEORGE STADIUM

8.45 pm **Sydney Olympic** Vs Leichhardt

Round 2 — 26th January 1983

4.30 pm Wollongong Vs Leichhardt

ZIEMS PARK — CORRIMAL

6.15 pm **St George** Vs **Sydney Olympic**

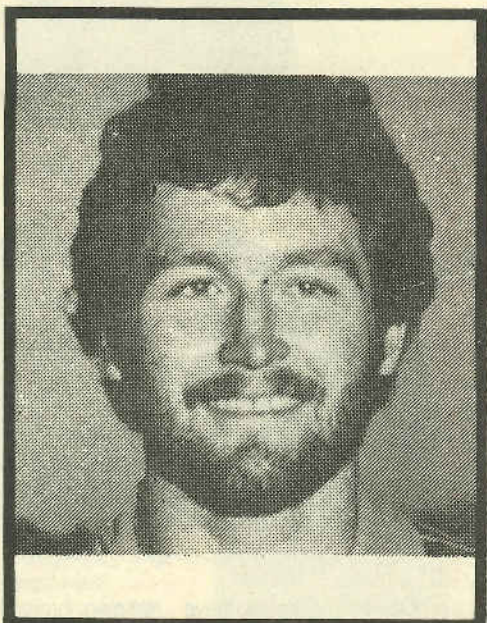
Round 3 — 30th January 1983

7 pm **Sydney Olympic** Vs Wollongong

9 pm **St George** Vs Leichhardt



Wollongong's Captain Jimmy Preston



Mark Pullen - Leichhardt's Captain

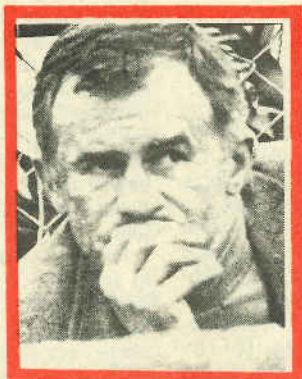


Peter Stone - St George Capt

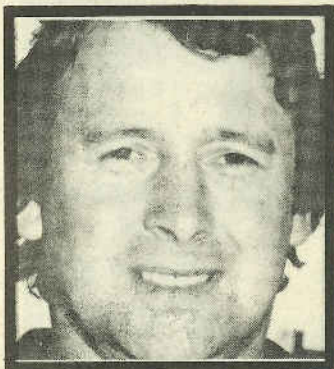


Peter Raskopoulos - Olympic Capt

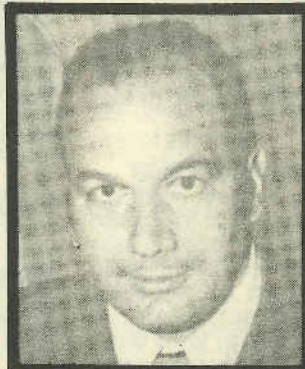
★ THE COACHES ★



St George - Frank Arok



Wollongong - Willie Wallace



Leichhardt Fil Bottalico



Olympic - Tommy Docherty

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STATE LEAGUE REPORTS

ALL ABOUT THE CLUBS

By Fred Villiers

For Whom The Bells Toll . . .

Dave O'Connor, the man who took Morwell Falcons to fourth place in their first season in Victorian State League, has taken over Geelong's leading club Bell Park.

He replaces Ian McCarthy, the former Sunshine City star.

Bell Park, which have first-class facilities and the support of a big social club, were lucky not to have been relegated last season.

They finished third from the bottom of Division One and only goal difference saved them.

Former Bristol City star, Steve Stacey, was in line for the Bell Park job but at the last minute he joined his colleague and old West Australian team-mate, Ken Morton, at Heidelberg as assistant coach.

O'Connor himself almost signed for Northcote City. He lives only a stone's throw from City's John Cain Stadium and it wasn't until the day before he was due to sign with the State League club that the Bell Park offer came.

Club secretary, Russell Butler, said Bell Park were delighted to have Dave with them.

His experience as player-coach with Morwell will be of great value to the Geelong-based club, he said.

Third Place Unlucky

Clarinda, the Provisional League second division club, believe they should be playing in first division this year.

It all happened when Sunshine City and George Cross amalgamated and left vacancies throughout the league.

Everyone went up on their merits except Clarin-

da who finished third in division two. What has upset Clarinda is that the fourth team, Clifton Hill, was promoted.

They were so disappointed they wrote to the VSF wanting to know why a club like theirs had missed out.

As clubman John Kakouris explains: "We have eight junior teams, good facilities and a nice ground. What more do you need to gain promotion?"

It seems their new pavilion at Osbourne Avenue, Westall, and all their amenities are just not enough.

"What annoys us is that they (VSF) will not give us a reason why we were not promoted," said John.

"How do we go about promotion in the future? What do we have to do? It's pretty clear cut if you finish first or second but what happens if you finish third and there happens to be a vacancy?"

"Does the fourth team get the nod?"

Our Man a Winner

Australian Soccer Weekly's Melbourne editor, Fred Villiers, won the Victorian Soccer Federation's first Soccer Writer of the Year award for 1982.

He received the award from a panel of independent judges for his constructive and varied articles in the Truth newspaper and also his general contributions in other forms of the media.

Fred received a silver tray suitably inscribed from VSF president, John Dimtis, at the VSF annual meeting.

Bob Brian, of The Melbourne Herald, received the award for the Soccer Story of the Year — an article titled 'Let's all play the game' which appeared

in the March 4 edition.

Les Shorrocks won the Photographer of the Year award for his general photographic coverage of the game, especially the sequence of action shots of Luther Blissett of Watford FC, taken during the Victoria v Watford game and also those of the Victoria v New York Cosmos match.

Soccer Tours on Offer

Peter Caplan, managing director, of Australian Sporting Tours to the UK, has organised group tours to the FA Cup final, at Wembley, on May 21 and also tours to the English home countries internationals.

Melbourne-based Peter can be contacted on (03) 211 1646 or through Gareth James, manager for the British Tourist Authority in Australia, in Sydney, phone (02) 29 8267.

As well as soccer tours he has tickets for Wimbledon, the Prudential World Cricket Cup finals, Royal Ascot and the British Golf Open.

Caplan says for sheer excitement the FA Cup is unmatched. "From day break the fans embark on their pilgrimage to the famous Wembley Stadium, — scene of the 1948 Olympics — to roar the teams to victory. The singing of various songs may not exactly be pagentry, but it is certainly moving," he said.

"In essence sport in Britain has a very special quality and to remain unaware of this may mean Australians, visiting the UK, miss out on having a trip really unforgettable."

For a tour brochure, write to Peter Caplan at Box 600, Toorak, Victoria, 3142.

South Melbourne Hellas under Rale Basic should retain the Victorian Ampol Cup which kicks off at Olympic Park, this Friday (January 28).

Their strongest challenge will come from Ken Morton's Heidelberg United who have been team building in earnest during the off-season.

But the betting is South Melbourne will keep the Cup they so deservedly earned last season.

This year's competition has been divided into two groups — A and B.

The four teams from the National League, as well as the four top State League teams, will take part.

They are:

GROUP A: Heidelberg United, South Melbourne, Melbourne Croatia, Morwell Falcons.

GROUP B: Preston, Footscray, Green Gully, Brunswick Juventus.

Green Gully, last season's State League champions, will open the series against Juventus on Friday at 7.30 pm followed by Preston v Footscray.

The following evening, Saturday, January 29, Melbourne Croatia play Morwell Falcons at 7.30, followed by Heidelberg v South Melbourne is a game which will attract the biggest crowd of the series.

Fans can judge them-



"You're right. If you've got the ball the opposition can't score — but then neither can you"

selves how good these two top Greek-sponsored clubs are at this time of the year. They will all have eyes on South's new signing from Adelaide Juventus, Bobby Russell Ken Murphy (ex-Melbourne) and Heidelberg's new star, John Spanos from Sydney.

Other games:

Friday, February 4: Footscray v Juventus, Preston v Green Gully.

Saturday, February 5: Heidelberg v Morwell, Melbourne Croatia v South Melbourne.

Friday, February 11: Preston v Juventus, Footscray v Green Gully.

Saturday, February 12: South Melbourne v Morwell Falcons, Heidelberg v Melbourne Croatia.

Friday, February 18: Semi finals.

Saturday, February 26: Junior Ampol Cup final, Senior Cup final, 8.15 pm.



Scene from last year's Heidelberg - v - South Melbourne

"How was I to know he could lip read"



George Campbell in full flight



Luther Blissett

STATE LEAGUE REPORTS

South Australia

Westad to lead NSL clubs' debut

By Tom McKain

West Adelaide will be the first of SA's two national soccer league clubs to take the field in the 1983 \$5000 Ampol Cup summer night series which kicks off on Wednesday, February 2 at Hindmarsh Stadium.

They have been drawn with State League clubs Polonia, Para Hills and Croatia in Group A of the two-league competition which will feature two matches each Wednesday night.

The other NSL club, Adelaide City is in group B with two other Italian-backed clubs — State League champions Azzurri and Campbelltown plus Beograd.

On opening night, the Group B clubs in action are Azzurri and Campbelltown.

ner of Group B; Winner Group A v Second in Group B.

Mar 23 — Final. Both NSL clubs have promised to field full-strength teams, but use the series as a warm-up for the NSL winter season which will mean fielding several of their younger brigade.

However, as this includes Youth Soccer Joe Mullen in the City squad there will be no question of the national teams being weaker than the senior State squads.

West's reserves beat Azzurri in the end-of-season Charity Cup between the State League champions and the second division champions, so again no one can complain about the strength of the West "reserves".

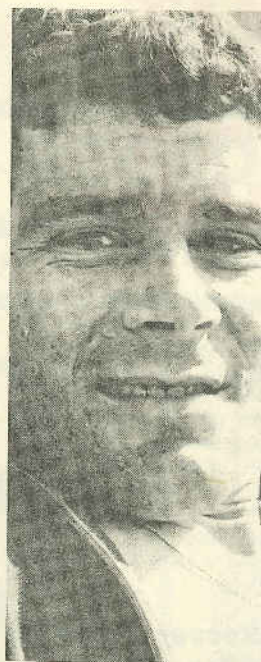
last year.

Azzurri will again be guided by Frank Schaper; Jack Braidwood is again with Croatia and Zoran Matcic in charge of Beograd.

Denis Harlow and Dennis Grant remain as co-coaches of Campbelltown

while Dave Jenkins goes solo with Polonia after sharing with Alex Kosmina last season.

New man on the scene is Para's Barry Simpson, assistant coach last year, who takes over from Ewan Douglas.



JOHNNY PERIN

Canberra

A.C.T. LEAGUE STRONGER

By Steve Burns

The new President of the ACT Soccer Federation, Roger Grylls, believes 1983 will be a big year for Canberra soccer.

It is strengthened at the expense of the NSW Southern League — a league Grylls believes had solid long-term gains for soccer in the area.

The demise of that league came only recently when ACT clubs — all five of them — formally withdrew their support.

Each — and that includes Queanbeyan City, who will revert to their old name of Macedonia Queanbeyan, — have been re-admitted to the ACT Football League.

It means ACT soccer is back to 12 clubs, and each club has to field three teams in the first division, under-23 division and the youth league.

But it could be even bigger. Not less than a 14-league competition.

Mr Grylls told ASW that former NSW Southern League clubs, Yogoali and Hanwood, of Griffith, might apply for membership.

"If they do I'm sure they will be accepted," he said. "Both are progressive clubs which can only improve."

The real impact of ACT clubs like Croatia and Downer Olympic now concentrating solely on Canberra soccer will be a strengthening of all of their squads.

"Canberra soccer has a new-look executive," Grylls said.

"The resignation of former secretary and president, Hal Leslie, my elevation to president, and the resignation of last year's secretary, Ron Harris, resulted in a major reshuffle."

Other executive members are Bob Fletcher (vice president), Brian Angel (treasurer and Canberra League chairman), Gerry Martens (Football League chairman), Junior League representative, Lindsay Parkyn, referees' liaison officer, Cyril Sutton. General executive positions are held by Joe Alberto, Alfonso Gonzalez and Bob Tomlinson.

JUNIORS INCREASE

Canberra's Junior League registration day is February 12.

Last year almost 5,000 juniors were registered in Canberra and indications are that the figure will be surpassed this year.

The weekend after registrations are taken, Canberra Arrows and the junior association get together to stage a novel pre-season pool party at Canberra's Macquarie Pool.

It will be a floodlit event with a host of soccer games, barbecue and the presence of the Arrows' first team squad.

One of the many prizes offered is a return trip for one youngster to Melbourne with the Arrows to see a NSL game.

This has been provided by courtesy of TAA.

Wollongong

CASEY NO PROPHET AT HOME

Coach Casey de Bruin gave Illawarra soccer a farewell blast at Fairy Meadow's annual ball.

De Bruin, who coached the club to a Grand Final win, was about to leave after being appointed coach of Blacktown City.

He said he was leaving the area because he was being forced to better himself in Sydney.

One of only three Australian Federation staff coaches in NSW, De Bruin had applied for the Wollongong City coaching jobs for the last two seasons.

In the club's initial year Ken Morton beat de Bruin for the job and this year Willie Wallace got the nod.

Both times de Bruin had support when it came to a vote, but was narrowly beaten.

He said he felt local talent just wasn't getting a fair deal in Wollongong.

"I have worked hard to get where I am but it seems Wollongong isn't interested in someone who lives here and is involved in the local scene," he said.

"Blacktown will be a big challenge to me but I'm confident I have the ability to prove the Wollongong people wrong."

Slacky flat for Bulli

Bulli will be changing their home base when they return to the premier league competition this season and will also have a new coach.

The Bulli Club are back in the district's premier competition after being relegated at the end of 1981.

Their old home ground, Woonona Oval, is being flattened to make way for a multi million-dollar supermarket so they are moving to Slacky Flat — home of the Bulli Trotting and Greyhound Clubs.

Officials hope this move will be just for one season only as the supermarket developers have promised to create a new soccer complex just north of where Woonona Oval was situated.

The switch to Slacky Flat means Bulli will be sharing with Russell Vale but the two clubs will now be able to play on a very good surface and the ground has good facilities.

"How was I to know he could lip read"



Coach quits

Coach of Bulli last season, Tony McDonald, recently had a rough time with a back injury sustained while on holidays in the Solomon Islands.

McDonald was in agony on the trip home and feared the injury would require surgery and a long spell in hospital.

Fortunately, he had the right treatment in Wollongong Hospital and after a period of rest was back on his feet.



"He's finally granted my transfer request — I'm playing in hell next season!"

Balgownie celebrates

Balgownie — the second oldest soccer club in Australia — will celebrate their centenary this year.

The club has formed a special centenary committee to organise a number of events to mark 100 years of soccer in "the village."

Spokesman Vic Morgan says a highlight will be the centenary ball while there will also be the official opening of the new-look Balgownie Oval.

Old-timers who wore the black and white colors in the past would hardly recognise the ground these days.

It has been given a big facelift with banked areas around the pitch and the ground is completely floodlit.

The lights will be officially turned on for two special exhibition games at the ground on February 25.

One game will feature Balgownie and Parramatta and the other Fairy Meadow and Wollongong City.

Parramatta were formerly known as Granville and they celebrated their own centenary last year.

A players' reunion also will be arranged during the Balgownie celebrations and former players from all over Australia are expected to attend.

Any ex-players who are interested in attending the reunion should get in touch with club officials for further information.

YOUNG BACK

Fairy Meadow goalkeeper Warwick Young is back home after a spell in Europe where he trained with Coventry City.

The talented 'keeper spent time with the club on the recommendation of Mike Johnson, who played with City manager David Sexton at Fulham some years ago.

The brother of rugby league star Craig Young and son of soccer international Bob Young, Warwick learned a lot during his stay in Coventry.

Canberra misses Dalglish

Canberra Arrows have just missed out on the soccer coup of 1983 — the signing of Kenny Dalglish, one of the world's most exciting players.

Arrows' coach, George Murray, had discussions with Dalglish while on a recent trip to England.

And the Liverpool striker was genuinely interested in guesting in Australia.

Preliminary discussions

centred around Dalglish playing in Australia for six weeks.

He was to have been accompanied by his wife and children.

But when Scotland announced new tour plans the visit had to be cancelled.

It was that close.

Canberra will try Dalglish next year.

STATE LEAGUE REPORTS

STRONG VIC SQUAD FOR MATCH

By Fred Villiers



Jimmy Campbell (right)



Zoran Ilioski

GEELONG CUP

Geelong soccer teams will be competing for prizemoney and trophies worth \$2,000 in a five-week pre-season tournament which kicks off on January 26.

Eight teams are taking part in the tournament which has been sponsored by the city's daily newspaper, the "Geelong Advertiser", since it was launched in 1981.

All clubs in the Geelong region, regardless of whether they are playing in provisional, metropolitan or local competitions, will be involved.

They will be competing for a share of prizemoney which totals \$1,500.

The winning team will receive \$800, runner-up \$400, third \$200 and fourth \$100.

The winner will also receive a replica of the "Geelong Advertiser Cup", a pennant, and players and referees taking part in the final will be presented with medallions.

Last year's Cup was won by Corio, which defeated

Geelong United 3-2 in a tense final that saw the winning goal scored in extra time.

The teams seeking to wrest the trophy from Corio are Geelong, Hamlyn Rangers, West Geelong, Bell Park, Geelong United, North Geelong and a combined Western Victoria Soccer Association side.

The competition will be played along the lines of the World Cup, with clubs divided into two groups of four. All teams in each group will play one another, with the two in each group with the most points playing off in the semi-finals.

Games will be played each Wednesday and Friday evening for five weeks at the Geelong Soccer Club's ground, Stead Park, Norlane, with the final on February 25.

The tournament is the first held, and in a relatively short time the Cup has become an important feature of the soccer scene in the Geelong region.

This is the Victorian squad for the interstate game between Queensland and Victoria to be played in Brisbane on Sunday, February 20 as part of the Queensland Soccer Federation's Centenary Celebrations:

Jeff Oliver (Heidelberg), Steve Potter (Preston), Peter Lewis (Green Gully), Charlie Yankos (Heidelberg), John Yzendoorn (Heidelberg), Steve Blair (South Melbourne), Alan Davidson (South Melbourne), Jim Campbell (Heidelberg), Ken Murphy (South Melbourne), Stefan Mila (Maribyrnong Polonia), Zoran Ilioski (Footscray), Fabio Incantupo (Brunswick Juventus), Charlie Egan (South Melbourne), Gary Cole (Heidelberg), Paul Lewis (Green Gully), George Campbell (South Melbourne), Steve Wooddin (South Melbourne), Doug Brown (Preston).

Coach: Tim White, assistant: Bob McLachlan.

The squad may be increased but it will finally be reduced to 16 for the game.

The coach has left his options open for the possible inclusion of new signings by Victorian clubs.

The Ampol Cup will present him with the opportunity to assess players' early season form.



Coaching Changes

Here are some of the movements of coaches in Victoria:

South Melbourne — Rale Rasic.

Heidelberg United — Ken Morton.

Preston — Peter Orlerton.

Footscray — Bob McLachlan.

Green Gully — Len McKendry.

Melbourne Croatia — John Gardiner.

Morwell Falcons — Tony Boggi.

Brunswick Juventus — John Margaritis.

Sunshine-George Cross — Tony Vella.

Croydon City — Bill McArthur.

Northcote City — Tony Vrzina.

Fawkner — Cedo Cirakovic.

Ringwood City — Mike deBruyckere.

Box Hill — Bill Murray.

Maribyrnong — Mike Lynn.

Albion Rovers — Hugh Murney.

Doveton — Ernie Merrick.

South Melbourne (State League) — Jim Armstrong.

Thomastown — Jim Kriaris.

Bell Park — Dave O'Connor.

Bulleen Veneto — Faus-ta Tarquinio.

Melbourne — Tommy Randles.

Frankston Pines — Dan-ny McMinimee.

Eltham — David Garthwaite.

Victoria YARRIVILLE HOPING FOR FURTHER BOOST

Yarraville, the Victorian Provisional League team, coached by Greek journalist Manos Milios, is looking for bigger and better things this year.

They have already made a name for themselves by winning promotion to division one after being chased all last season by Bulleen, Veneto and Clarinda.

Yarraville won promotion with Bulleen who only just made it when they played their last league game of the season against Clarinda. It was a matter of winner takes all as the side

before joining the 1978 championship side South Oakleigh as a centre back in 1978.

Manos said the hardest teams to beat this year will be Bulleen, East Brunswick and Lalor.

"But we'll be trying to win promotion again and play in the Metropolitan League in 1984," he said.

"We have a very young team. They're all under 21 except two who are 26 and 27."

Pull up your socks or get out...

That's the warning from Croatia's boss.

second year in succession.

And that's something he or his supporters won't tolerate. After all, they've spent big money in signing the best playing-coach in the state in Rothmans gold medallist Johnny Gardiner.

"Unless they (the players) pull their socks up they can get out," said Joe.

"They can look for new contracts. I'm not happy with what I've seen of some of them. I expect more from players like Brogan, Adam and Biskic.

"They always complain we have no coach. Now we have everything. The best

coach, and the best ground but the way they are playing in practice matches is not good enough.

"We're spending big money and getting nothing in return.

"I'm president of the club and I get sick watching them. It's not the soccer we saw in 1965 when we had ten to 15,000 people watching us.

"We want more action, skill and results. We want more of everything and unless we do get what we want some of the players will have to look for new contracts," he said.



Steve Blair in action against Sydney City

which won this match made the big step up.

Manos, sports editor of New Country and Hellenic Herald newspapers, has just completed his first year with Yarraville, and he's as good with the pen as he is with his feet.

In his native Greece he played first division with Athenaios and also in Sweden and South Africa

Big Joe Sigur, managing director of a North Melbourne smallgoods company, usually gets what he wants.

As president of Melbourne Croatia, the glamour side of Victoria's State League, he knows that if his players don't pull their weight they'll finish up being the bridesmaid of the league again for the



Tony Vrzina, coach of Northcote.



Jeff OLIVER

Serderon's new deal

ASW has joined with Sydney Plastic Distributors Serderon Pty Ltd to conduct a competition for junior clubs, associations and schools for the past two years.

Serderon managing director, Steve Serda, has offered to extend prizemoney this year to further promote junior soccer.

Details will be announced next week.

In 1982 the prizes were distributed to soccer clubs in Sydney, Brisbane and Canberra.

The idea is to send your club's newsy material and photographs to ASW and our editorial staff will access it over the year.

Twice winners have been the Chulora Wolves through their keen coach Robert Wozniak.

Soon you will see further examples of news from this club in ASW's junior pages.



This is the Fairfield Police Boys club under 8A team, winners of the Division 4 competition of the Southern Districts SFA. The boys only lost once in running through to take the minor premiership. They lost the major semi-final to Fairvale, beat King Tomislav in the final, and then took out the grand final against Fairvale 2-0. The team is: BACK ROW (L or R): Mr Peter Saunders (coach), Christian Blaskovic, Mr Joe Grima (sponsor), Jason Johnstone, Brett Barber, Scott McCarthy, Mrs Doreen McCarthy (manager). MIDDLE ROW: Ariel Portes, Milarad Stegnjaic, James Saunders, Peter Skoric. FRONT ROW: Colin Kerim, David Grima, Nieu Luu, Lee Sawyer (capt), Paul Morgan (vice-capt).

REAL BANANA STYLE

Here is young Shaun Callaway from Mackay in Queensland. He seems to be proving that even footballs are bigger in the Banana State.

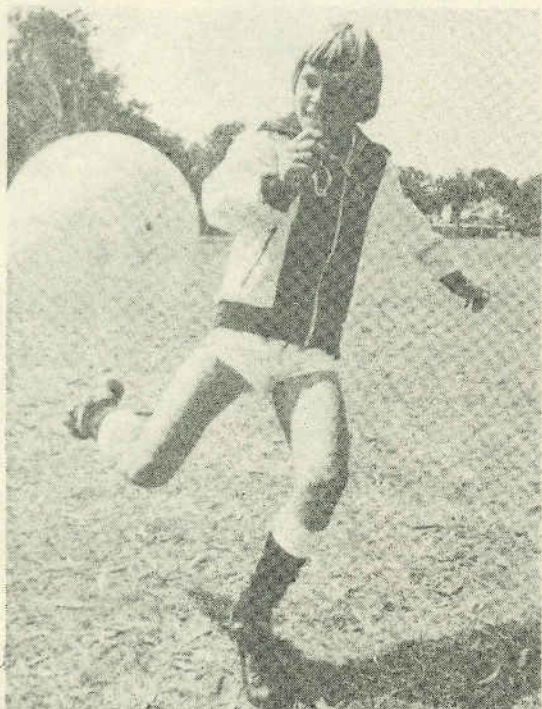
Shaun's 1982 season was a very full one indeed. He captained Central Queensland in the Commonwealth Bank primary schools carnival held in Townsville in July.

He was away from home for two weeks as a member of the Queensland team competing in the Australian Primary School Championship in Canberra.

First he went to Ipswich where he attended school in the day and received specialised soccer tuition in the afternoon and at night.

Then he was off to Canberra, where he scored two goals from the midfield in six games.

On the educational side Shaun saw Parliament House, the War Memorial, the Australian Mint, the High Court and the Australian Institute of Sport.

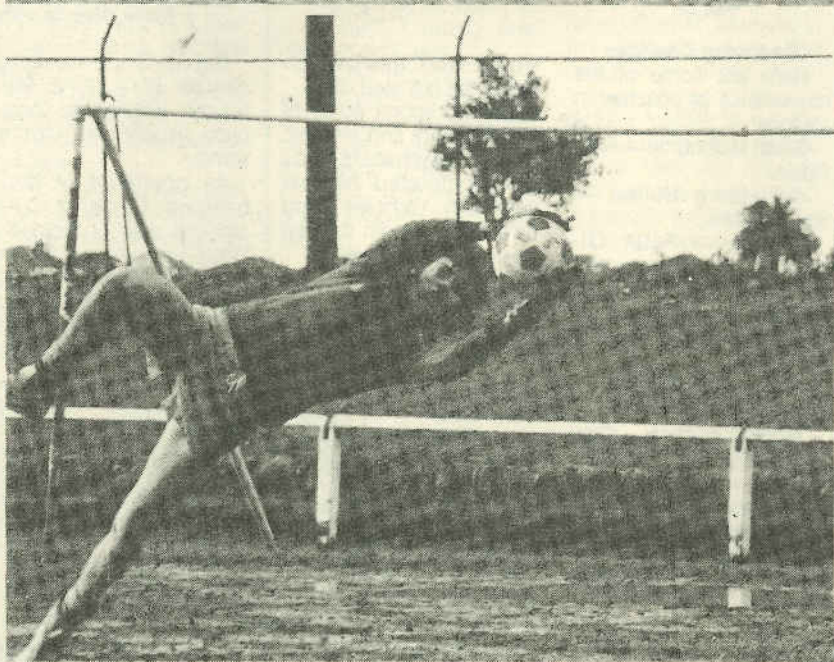
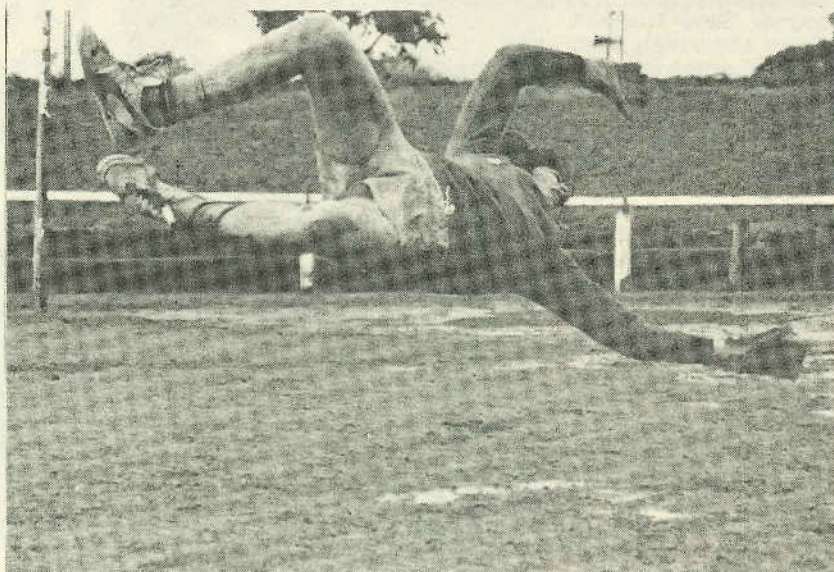


Coming Soon!

NSW-ASF Sydney Branch
Mini Ampol Cup

Watch for Details

HIGH FLYER



Corrimal High School goalkeeper David Curley shows both ability and style in these pictures. David should have a great future. He is a South Coast representative at 16, and also plays for Tarrawanna Soccer Club in the Illawarra District.

KEITH GILMOUR'S JUNIOR SCENE

SPORT BILLY PLAYS FAIR

Yes, you know Ginger Meggs.

And Kickaburra, that endearing character that was used so successfully to promote the 1981 World Youth Soccer Championships in Australia.

There are the Socceroos and the Young Socceroos. The latter are representing Australia in Costa Rica at present as they try to obtain a place in the World Youth Championships in Mexico in June.

Their names come, of course, from a shortening of the typically Australian kangaroo.

But who is Sport Billy? This full-cheeked little character represents the youngsters who play soccer world-wide.

There are countless millions of them.

Thanks to the big numbers who play the game in schools and junior clubs in

NSW, the ACT and Queensland and the growth in most other States, Australia has the numbers of players from whom future NSL and State League players can come.

Especially if the youngsters put their minds and effort into improving their play.

But little Sport Billy means more than the young people themselves.

He stands for fair play. And soccer is a body-contact game where play is in the open and fair play is encouraged.

The holder of the Sport Billy Fair Play Trophy awarded at the World Cup in Spain is Brazil.

Holders Italy are famous for their all-round play. Brazil have top standing for their fair play. Congratulations to our neighbours New Zealand who ran second.



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KEITH GILMOUR'S JUNIOR SCENE



Corrimal High School lost their Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup quarter-final 0-1 to Punchbowl Boys High School, but they have some very fine prospects as players. Here representative and Corrimal Rangers defender Craig Smith (right) is challenged by Russell Forbes.

Stick around for another boom year!

Many of our readers stayed with us until the last issue of 1982.

They were rewarded when AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY ran an unprecedented seven pages of junior features.

We thank those who mentioned their pleasure at the schools and junior cover and the issue of Tuesday, October 19 in particular.

Everyone can be assured of our commitment to junior and schools soccer in all its forms.

Our enthusiasm has not lessened over the Christmas-New Year break. In fact, it has heightened and we are ready to include as much junior news as we possibly can throughout the coming year.

Our reward is that you continue to regard ASW as your soccer paper. This has already shown out by your purchase of it.

We can continue to give the paper the news you want if you provide us with those good team photographs and names of players and all the other information that enthusiastic players, coaches, managers and friends have mailed to us so consistently since we began publication.

We are ready to go to print with these pictures and stories. Just mail them to P.O. Box 406 Broadway 2007.

We have planned many features and stories for the year.

NSW and Queensland and the ACT have responded to our invitations to supply more material. This year we want to print more items from other centres as well and we look forward to the help of dedicated soccer people right throughout Australia to make this possible.

Once again, our mailing address: P.O. Box 406 Broadway 2007. — Keith Gilmour

REFS CAN GO TO GLADESVILLE

Gladesville-Hornsby referee and prominent official Phil Hafey is never behind the door when it comes to recruiting new referees.

The welcome mat is out for anyone who wants to join either as a senior or a cadet.

Phil says that spectators are generally well behaved in the district, which means that new whistlers can join in with a deal of confidence that their positions will be respected.

The referees have appointed five of their number as an

examination board for the coming season.

Of the top referees who have come through the district none is better known than Richard Lorenc, who has handled State League Grand Finals and National Soccer League fixtures.

The lecture series for new referees will start next month, and persons over 14 years are invited to attend.

Phil Hafey can be contacted on 858 3211.

NSW SOUTHERN BRANCH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Associations representing the Southern Tablelands, central South Coast, Far South Coast and the Highlands participated in last year's championships.

This is where the honours went:

Winners

U9 Southern Tablelands
U10 Highlands
U11 Highlands
U12 Highlands
U13 Highlands
U14 Southern Tablelands
AA Highlands

Runners-up

Central South Coast
Southern Tablelands
Southern Tablelands
Central South Coast
Southern Tablelands
Highlands
Southern Tablelands

A TOP MANLY GOALSCORER



Striker Charlie Noyce finished with a tally of 30 goals out of a team total of 36 for the Manly U10s.

That record failed to win him the best and fairest award. (They must be a good side!)

Some consolation is the player of the year award which has just arrived, after nine months in the mail from his English team, with whom he played last season before departing to settle in Sydney with his parents.

His dad was for the last 10 years secretary of Fulham Football Club in London, and he spent three years on the administrative side at Chelsea before that.

He is currently involved in that strangest of sporting rituals — Cricket — as marketing manager of PBL Marketing, looking after things for the up-coming ashes series.

Goalscorers are a bit thin on the ground, so let's hope none of this cricket nonsense rubs off on Charlie!

Young 'Roos on TV?

There's some hope that parts of the matches from Costa Rica will be shown later on commercial TV. Please watch press announcements.

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MacArthur Covers boom city of Campbelltown

Years of steady planning will bear fruit this season with the formation of the Macarthur Soccer Football Association to cover the booming City of Campbelltown.

In addition the NSW Southern Branch, which covers huge tracts of NSW, will receive a boost.

The Macarthur growth story means that more talented players will be available to improve standards of junior competitions in the south.

Other moves are also afoot which will have a further beneficial effect.

Macarthur officials expect that they will have from 228 to 240 teams this year.

This remarkable start has been largely due to the co-operation of the Southern Districts Association in Sydney, which covers the Liverpool-Fairfield districts and formerly included the Campbelltown area as well.

Macarthur Association will include three existing Highlands Association clubs in their ranks.

After losing these more northerly clubs, the Highlands Association has resolved to continue and find the means to bring their competitions back to strength.

It is a daunting task for the keen folk from the Mittagong-Bowral-Berrima area but they say they are more than equal to it.

With the re-affiliation of the big Shoalhaven Association from the Nowra area it is likely that Southern Branch will grow to over 400 teams this year.

Barry Hunter, the Southern Branch president and NSW Amateur Federation vice-president, is looking forward to the growth situation that is currently emerging.

Large area

He said: "Macarthur will gain the territory from the Crossroads to Campbelltown, down towards Bargo and across the Appin."

"We have strong associations in Macarthur, the Highlands, and Southern Tablelands, which covers

the Goulburn area, and Shoalhaven.

"On the Coast we cannot expect big entries to Associations from Ulladulla to the border with Victoria, because it is mainly a retirement area with fewer than the usual number of youngsters and long distances between towns."

"In this section we have Central South Coast Association for Batemans Bay to Bermagui, and the Far South Coast Association from Bermagui to Malacoota."

"There are some developing centres south of Nowra and around Batemans Bay."

"They could be exploited by creating more teams. No doubt the local people will try to find ways to overcome the travel problem over the next couple of years."

Another move that could be attractive to the ACT Association is designed to give both Southern NSW and themselves more competition without disturbing their status as a separate state.

Their present standing could be preserved with the assistance of the National Junior Council.

Southern Branch has a proposal going forward to invite them to play representative games in Southern NSW.

They could also play by invitation in the NSW State titles.

Canberra has 400 teams and close to 5,000 junior players. It could be that extra regular competitions would help them lift their standards, as well as provide the Southern NSW players with more opponents of quality.



BURRAGORANG U11 FROM THE NSW HIGHLAND SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

BACK ROW (L to R): Linden Cowa, Jim Jansen, Scott Haines, Scott Gapes, Andrew Gapes, Scott Carson. FRONT ROW: Jason Berry, Darren Hunter, Mathew Stein, Chris Norrer, Jamie Stanton, Stuart Noakes, Wayne Mantley. The team was coached by Graham Stanton.



Penhurst West U7 play eight-a-side mini-Soccer in the St George District Soccer Association in Sydney. They finished runners-up in their competition this season. Young Jason Falzon was top-scorer with 25 goals. Coach Paul Falzon is district coach for the Canterbury & District Soccer Football Association. The team is (from left): Scott Henderson, Adam Carter, Craig Maddern, Ryan Howard, Dennis Tanevski, Mathew Rossiter, Jason Falzon, David Gibson, Shaw Dodd. At front: Fina Falzon (the helping hand), Paul Falzon (coach).

World cup venue still in doubt

Speculation is ripe as to the venue of the 1986 World Cup finals, following the withdrawal of Colombia.

At the January deadline, four countries have filed formal applications: Brazil, Mexico, USA and Canada.

Normally Brazil would be favorites to become the hosts — but with their economy in a terrible mess, the Federal Government is in two minds whether to pledge its support, without which FIFA will not even consider them.

Mexico — also in economic trouble, what with \$80 billion owing to various foreign banks — is strangely optimistic about its chances.

"I'd say Mexico is 90 per cent certain as the choice," says Joaquin Saria Terrazas, president of the North and Central American Confederation — who is also a Mexican.

Canada seems to have the slimmest of chances. The Americans — aided by the direct lobbying of former Secretary of State and shuttle diplomacy expert, Henry Kissinger — are hopeful.

They say they have the communication network, the hotels and the best transport system in the world as well as the necessary stadiums.

However, almost all their major stadiums — also used for gridiron football — have synthetic turf which would have to be ripped up and replaced by grass as no World Cup can be staged on an artificial surface.

There is also a chance that Canada and the USA may combine as hosts. But that would pose a big question to FIFA: which of the two should be allowed to qualify automatically, as host country? Surely not both.

Final decision: at the FIFA Congress on May 20.

Italy hits top of heap in European rankings

Italy has been declared as Europe's best team for 1982 by the authoritative 'France Football' magazine.

FF each year ranks the European countries according to their results — and opponents.

This is their order for 1982:

1. Italy
2. Poland
3. West Germany, England, France.
6. Belgium & USSR.
8. Austria & Switzerland.
10. Scotland & Czechoslovakia.
12. Nth. Ireland.
13. Spain.
14. East Germany, Wales & Portugal
17. Hungary, Rumania & Yugoslavia
20. Norway & Holland
22. Sweden
23. Denmark
24. Eire
25. Bulgaria
26. Finland
27. Greece
28. Iceland
29. Cyprus
30. Albania
31. Malta & Turkey
33. Luxembourg

Italy — top ranking for the first time since 1973 — suffered three defeats in 1982 (France, West Germany and Switzerland) but won the World Cup and so there can be no arguments.

Poland played 10 games, lost two, came third in the World Cup and probably deserves its second spot as a consistently classy side.

FF's triple deadheat for third place is interesting. West Germany played 15, won seven and lost four and reached the World Cup final. However, they suffered some dents to their image through their defeat against Algeria and then the Schumacher incident against France.

England also played 15, won 10, lost only one (a friendly to West Germany at Wembley), went through the World Cup without a loss and probably missed out on a higher ranking because they failed to reach the semifinals due to their lack of strikers.

France had a marvellous year, their best since 1958 and, with just half an ounce of luck, should have reached the World Cup final. They played 15, won seven and lost five in 1982.

Of the others Hungary (4th in 1981) and Yugoslavia (2nd) slipped badly.

It's also sad to see Holland — ranked first in 1974 and also 1978 — to be rated in Norway's class. If it were ski jumping, perhaps...

Sweden have not been higher than 12th since 1973 and East Germany — ranked 3rd in 1976 — have joined the also-rans.



Poland — Seen in action here at the World Cup — is rated as Europe's second best team.

Over the last 20 years of FF rankings — accepted all over Europe as the fairest and most authentic — the order of the top 10 is:

West Germany, Italy, England, USSR, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Belgium, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Spain. Scotland is 14th, Wales 20th and Northern Ireland 23rd.

ALGERIA LEADING

France Football also ranked the 30 African countries on their 1982 results and here the order is:

Algeria, Cameroon, Ghana, Lybia, Zambia, Guinea, Togo, Senegal, Uganda, Kenya...Tunisia — a brilliant team at the 1978 World Cup — is 16th.

In South America, it was fairly easy to establish the pecking order — 1. Brazil, 2. Argentina, 3. Peru, 4. Chile.

The Brazilians lost only one game in 1982 — their fatal crash against Italy in the World Cup. Argentina played 10, won four and lost three.

Carlos Alberto No. 2...

The Brazilian mania of using Christian names instead of surnames has helped to create a gigantic confusion in the world Press.

Scores of overseas newspapers reported that, following Tele Santana's resignation, the next manager of Brazil will be Carlos Alberto.

Many commentators then added, on their own, that this was the man who captained Brazil to its 1970 World Cup triumph.

Well, it isn't. That fellow — a mulatto — was Carlos Alberto Torres who, after a brilliant career at home, recently retired from New York Cosmos.

The manager-designate is Carlos Alberto Pereira, 42, whose formal training came in physical education and not soccer which he played only as an amateur.

Pereira returned to Rio recently, having spent six years in Kuwait, first as assistant national coach under Mario Zagalo (with whom he visited Australia in 1977) and then as the boss.

Now he is one of the top candidates to take over Brazil, everybody's second favourites in world soccer.

Another Yugo crisis

Soccer stars are rapidly losing their popularity in soccer-crazy Yugoslavia: their poor showing at the 1982 World Cup may have a lot to do with this.

The end-of-year polls conducted by the various newspapers have been unkind to soccer players.

The Belgrade daily 'Politika' doesn't rate any soccer players in its list of top 20 Yugoslav sportsmen. Another Belgrade publication, 'Sport' fails to rank any soccer stars in its top seven for the year.

Of those newspapers which do bother to mention soccer at all, Zagreb Dinamo's Zajec and Hajduk's Gudelj top most lists.

Meanwhile — yet another scandal is brewing in downtown Yugoslavia. Sarajevo's international striker Susic recently received his Federation's permission to play with Paris Saint-Germain — under the most unorthodox circumstances.

The vote by the executive was taken via telegrams — and this turns out to be invalid.

Meanwhile, Susic is playing in Paris and fans are wondering what underhand manoeuvres will be used to make his highly illegal transfer legal...

Rossi is toast of Europe now

Not surprisingly, Italy's Paolo Rossi has been elected as European 'Player of the Year,' winning the coveted 'Golden Boot' award.

Hero of Italy's World Cup-winning side only weeks after his two-year suspension had ended, Rossi won the poll conducted by the French weekly *France Football* with most leading soccer-writers casting their vote.

Rossi, it will be recalled, came to life after a quiet first round of matches in the 1982 World Cup and literally exploded in the matches against Argentina, Brazil, Poland and West Germany.

This was the full list of vote-getters:

1. Rossi (Juventus)115
2. Giresse (Bordeaux) .68
3. Boniek (Juventus)53
4. Conti (AS Roma)48
5. Rummenigge (Bayern)47
6. Dassayev (Spartak Mosc.)40
7. Littbarski (FC Koln)17
8. Zoff (Juventus)9
9. Platini (Juventus)6
10. Schuster (Barcelona)4
11. Antognoni (Fiorentina)3
12. Gerets (St. Liege)2
12. Pezzey (Frankfurt)1
12. Scirea (Juventus)1
15. Breitner (Bayern)1
15. Nilsson (Kaisersl.)1
15. Tardelli (Juventus)1



Paolo Rossi celebrates a goal.

15. Tresor (Bordeaux)1

Obviously, the World Cup performances of last June and July strongly influenced the poll: only two players on the list, Schuster and the Swedish Nilsson were not seen at the Mundial in Spain.

Amazingly, Italy's Juventus squeezed six players on the list, surely an unparalleled achievement in the 27-year history of the poll.

West Europeans dominated the voting: from the Eastern Bloc countries only

Boniek and Dassayev managed to get votes.

The high ranking of France's tiny Alain Giresse and Italy's almost as tiny Bruno Conti is a surprise only for those who didn't see their brilliant World Cup displays.

Britain scored a full miss: not one player from the four 'Home Countries' received a single vote — not even from their own countrymen.

Rossi is the first Latin star to win the "Golden Boot" since 1961 and only the second Italian ever:

Gianni Rivera of AC Milan set the precedent.

However, he is not the first Juventus superstar to score in this poll: in 1961 Omar Sivori topped the rankings — but Sivori was Argentine-born.

The record holder in the poll is Dutch star Johan Cruyff who won the award three times — once with Ajax of Amsterdam and twice with Barcelona.

Alfredo Di Stefano, Franz Beckenbauer, Kevin Keegan and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge have been double winners.

WEEKEND RESULTS

UK soccer tables

ENGLISH DIV 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	25	11	2	0	41	12	56
Man Utd	25	9	4	0	24	5	46
Watford	25	10	2	1	30	7	43
Not'm For	25	9	2	2	23	8	42
Coventry	25	9	3	1	21	7	39
West Ham	25	8	1	4	28	15	37
Everton	25	7	4	1	25	12	36
W.B.A.	25	7	3	2	25	12	35
Aston Villa	25	9	2	2	28	12	36
Man City	25	8	3	1	20	10	36
Tottenham	25	8	3	2	31	13	35
Ipswich	25	6	1	5	21	15	34
Stoke	25	8	3	2	25	16	34
Arsenal	25	6	3	3	19	13	33
Notts. Cntry	25	7	2	4	19	16	31
Luton	25	4	3	3	23	18	30
Southampton	25	6	3	3	18	13	30
Swansea	25	7	2	3	19	11	27
Sunderland	25	4	5	3	17	11	27
Not'm H.	25	5	2	5	17	13	26
Brighton	25	6	4	3	18	14	26
Birmingham	25	4	4	4	15	16	23

ENGLISH DIV 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wolves	25	11	0	2	33	10	53
O.F.R.	25	8	2	2	24	10	49
Fulham	25	8	3	2	23	15	47
Sheff Wed	25	6	5	2	24	16	38
Leicester	25	6	1	6	19	11	36
Leeds Utd	25	5	5	2	15	10	36
Shrewsbury	25	5	4	3	11	9	36
Gillingham	25	7	4	2	24	15	35
Oldham	25	4	7	2	25	19	34
Barnsley	25	5	6	1	23	13	34
Blackburn	25	5	5	2	24	15	34
Newcastle	25	6	5	2	21	13	33
Rotherham	25	5	3	4	13	13	32
Sheff	25	6	5	1	22	8	31
Bolton	25	7	1	4	22	20	30
Crystal Pal	25	6	5	2	19	13	30
Charlton	25	6	1	5	20	10	29
Middlesbrough	25	4	4	4	15	22	28
Cambridge	25	7	4	2	20	13	27
Bury	25	5	3	5	22	18	26
Derby Cntry	25	3	6	4	17	20	20

LATIN AMERICA

BRAZIL

• Brazilian ace Zico's wife gave birth to their third child — all boys. The newborn has been named Tiago while the other two are called Junior and Bruno.

★ ★ ★

• Brazil have completed their tour program for Europe later this year. They will start off in Lisbon against Portugal on June 8; then play against West Germany on June 12, Switzerland on June 17 and finally in Sweden on June 22. This match will be billed as the "return" of the 1958 World Cup final between the two countries and the curtain-raiser will be between the two original teams including such greats as Pele, Vava, Garrincha, Zito, Zagalo, Skoglund, Hamrin, etc.

★ ★ ★

• One of Brazil's most illustrious clubs, Fluminense of Rio, is hopelessly broke: since October they have been unable to pay the players' wages. A club spokesman recently said Fluminense would probably sell all their professional players and keep continuing with youngsters as an amateur club.

★ ★ ★



Junior of Brazil

• Brazil is itching to take revenge on Italy for their World Cup defeat in Barcelona last July: the two teams will meet on June 25, in New York, arranged by the city's Italian community.

BOLIVIA

• Fun, fun, fun in Bolivia... The finale of a match between Wilsterman and Blooming, in the city of Cochamba, had more than its usual share of drama. When the match ended in 1-1, one spectator died of a heart attack, three policemen were injured by bottles, another spectator was hit on the head by a gas bomb and eight fans attacking the police were arrested.

ARGENTINE

• Two Argentinians are on the shopping list of AC Milan: Napoli's Ramon Diaz (who wants to leave if his team gets relegated) and either Urruti or Gasparini from Racing Cordoba, up in the Andes mountains. Originally Milan had some vague hopes of signing Paulo Rossi but have now officially abandoned the idea.

URUGUAY

• Uruguayan striker Victorino — hero of the 1981 'Mundialito' — has left his Italian club Cagliari and is back in Montevideo, negotiating his return home. His likely new club is Nacional, one of the Big Two along with Penarol.

EL SALVADOR

• El Salvador's goalie Mora is in Spain, hoping to join a professional outfit. And guess which city he has picked? Elche, of all places, where last June he had 10 goals hammered past him by Hungary...

BRAZIL

• The Brazilian soccer writers have spoken: their player of the year is Socrates and not Zico who was earlier voted to be the No. 1 in South America...

YUGOSLAVIA

• Several former officials of the Yugoslav club Red Star are under investigation on charges of corruption. One of them, a former president, is already serving an eight-year prison sentence.

★ ★ ★

• Yugoslavia thinks they have discovered a brilliant child prodigy in Mitar Mrkela, 17, striker of OFK Belgrade. He has been a regular at the various Youth national sides and now he has been included in Todor Veselinovic's national squad.

ISRAEL

• Who envies the headline writers in Israeli soccer? Of the 16 teams in the first division, seven carry the pre-fix of "Hapoel" while another six have "Maccabi" in their name. Strangely, there isn't one Hakoah among them.

AFRICA

• Some of the teams in the Zambian first division certainly have colorful names: Red Devils, Power Dynamos and Strike Rivers, among them.

FRANCE

• The French first division team Bastia, on the island of Corsica of Napoleon's fame, has three colored African stars: Roger Milla and Gregoire M'Bida from Cameroon and Michel Massemba from Brazzaville.

★ ★ ★

• Paris' 'France Football' has awarded its annual prizes: best team, best player, coach, amateur, most loyal etc. — all in all, 14 categories. In one, there was no award: the best club director.

★ ★ ★

• The French Federation, in the wake of the recent St Etienne tax-



French Striker Didier Six, now with the German club Stuttgart, has helped to make France one of the top teams of Europe.

scandal, is thinking of reforms which would eliminate the temptation for most clubs to run "black books" for illegal payments to players. The suggested reforms cover the entire financial structure of French pro soccer.

GREECE

• Yet another foreign ace has joined a leading Greek club: he is Roger Albertsen, a striker from Norway who has joined Olympiakos.

HUNGARY

• Hungarian ace Tibor Nyilasi has recovered from his ankle injury which kept him sidelined since October. Now he hopes to resume playing for his club, Ferencvaros and eventually return to the national side which he captained last year.

ITALY

• Corrado Ferlaino, for 14 years president of AC Napoli, has resigned. The Neapolitans are doing poorly in the first division and Il Presidente's popularity has nosedived to such an extent that some lunatics exploded a small bomb outside his house.

★ ★ ★

• Italy's Inter Milan have announced that they are hopeful of signing young German striker Pierre Littbarski, now with FC Koln. The transfer fee could be \$1,500,000 while little Pierre stands to get some \$500,000 for two years.

★ ★ ★

• Juventus, which was supposed to run away with the Italian championship 'scudetto', is falling hopelessly behind the leaders. The team that has six Italian internationals, including such stars as Zoff, Rossi, Bettiga and others, looked unbeatable when half a year ago they also signed the Polish Boniek and the French ace Platini. Now, however, some of the

'old Juve hands' are sounding off about the newcomers. "These foreigners come to Italy to shine occasionally but they cannot fit in," says tough guy Gentile. His team-mate, Tardelli, was equally outspoken: "They play only for themselves and have disrupted Juve's style."

★ ★ ★

• Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, the Bayern superstar, has recently told reporters that he was still toying with the idea of ending his career in Italy. However, his contract runs to mid-1985. Bayern's likely asking price: at least \$3 million.

★ ★ ★

POLAND

• Poland manager Anton Piechniczek has started his team's preparations for the 1983 season. All the '82 World Cup stars are members of the new 24-strong squad except those playing for foreign clubs but these, too — such as Boniek, Zmuda, Lato etc — will be available.

★ ★ ★

• Poland's sportsman of the year — for the first time since the war — is a soccer player, naturally Zbigniew Boniek, ahead of world champions in several other sports. This rare honor escaped even such greats in the past as Lubanski and Deyna.

★ ★ ★

SPAIN

• The Spanish Valencia have signed Nestor Di Luca, 22, from the Argentinian Huracan, for a mere \$150,000. Coach Miljan Miljanic is hoping Di Luca will get him the goals that are needed to avoid relegation.

★ ★ ★

• FC Barcelona have finished their plans for the expansion of their magnificent Nou Camp stadium, increasing the capacity from today's 95,000 to 140,000. They are offering 15,000 new memberships and these knowing the

soccer madness of the Catalans, should be snapped up within days.

USSR

• Vitalij Daraseliya, 25, Dinamo Tbilisi's Soviet international star, has died in a car smash.

W. GERMANY

• Just as he was about to announce his retirement, FC Koln's former German international Rainer Bonhof has found a new gold mine: Hertha Berlin have signed him for \$200,000. The player himself won't be too badly off, either: he will receive a free apartment, a weekly airfare Cologne-Berlin-Cologne, \$8,000 salary a month plus bonuses. Who would want to retire with all that?

★ ★ ★

• It's boots and all in this war... Of the 18 teams in the West German Bundesliga, 14 wear Adidas outfit and four are contracted to Puma. But now the Yanks are coming: Pony has signed Borussia Dortmund and Nike are negotiating with SV Hamburg and Eintracht Frankfurt.

★ ★ ★

• The German magazine 'Sport Illustrierte' has polled its readers — and came up with some shock results. Some 60 per cent want national team manager Jupp Derwall to resign and 66 per cent suggest Association president Willy Neuberger should also go. The popular favorite to take over the national team is Erich Ribbeck, former assistant to Derwall who resigned after the World Cup in July.

YUGO

• Yugoslavia has introduced a system determining the amount of money a player is allowed to pocket when he signs for a foreign club, with the rest going to his club. At 21 he gets nothing, at 22 he gets 5%, at 24 it's 10%, then up to 20% at 25, 30% at 28 and finally a generous 90% at 30 or over.

BRITAIN CALLING

• Ian St John took plenty of knocks in his glory days as leader of the Liverpool attack but he's just recovering from one of his most serious injuries. St John, now a TV commentator, slipped in his bath and fractured his skull!

★ ★ ★

• Wolverhampton Wanderers manager Graham Hawkins has slapped a fine of \$120 on... Graham Hawkins. Explaining this strange affair, Hawkins said: "I did not agree with the referee when he gave a penalty against us for handball. I suddenly realised I was jumping up and down ranting and raving. When Wolves players show dissent, they are automatically fined. There is no way I can fine them and not myself."

★ ★ ★

• Many critics rate Cyrille Regis the best centre-forward in England and were disappointed when he didn't make England's World Cup squad in Spain. Regis, however, is going through a terrible spell and has forgotten how to score goals for his club, West Bromwich Albion. Maybe a change of club would bring back the Regis scoring magic.

★ ★ ★

• Dzemail Hadziabdic, Ante Rajkovic and Vladimir Petrovic all played prominent parts in a recent first division match. Not in Belgrade or Zagreb. The match was at Highbury — with Arsenal beating Swansea City 2-1. Petrovic, playing for Arsenal in his debut match, was booked by the referee after his first foul in English football.

★ ★ ★

• The once-famous Derby County have lost thousands of fans since skidding to the bottom of the second division but many of the regulars came out of the woodwork for the F.A. Cup tie against Nottingham Forest. Forest, managed by Brian Clough, were beaten by Derby, managed by Clough's former assistant Peter Taylor — and spectators paid \$112,000 at the gate to see the action.

★ ★ ★

• When Spurs beat Southampton 1-0 in the Cup — the goal going to Mike Hazard — it was Spurs 17th F.A. Cup tie without defeat. Liverpool, in March 1980, last beat Spurs in the glamorous knock-out competition.

★ ★ ★

• Justin Fashanu scored four goals in 35 games for Nottingham Forest — hardly lethal finishing for a \$2,000,000 man. Since being sold to neighbouring Notts County for what was called a "giveaway" fee, Fashanu has scored another four goals... in five games.

★ ★ ★

• Unlike most clubs, who spend the close season trying to get their star players on new contracts, Liverpool always look ahead. With the English season only half over, Sammy Lee and Graeme Souness re-signed for the next three years last week. Liverpool manager Bob Paisley said: "All our players are now signed till 1984. They'll all be available next season — if we want them. We always like to sort out our contract problems in mid-season."

★ ★ ★

• It's possible that the familiar faces of Brian Moore, Jimmy Hill and Co could disappear from English TV screens next season. The Football League wants a big increase in the fee it receives from television — currently the figure is \$17,000,000 a season. TV companies, however, say they won't pay a penny extra and claim soccer is losing its impact with viewers. Recent discussions between TV and the League broke up after bitter arguments.

★ ★ ★

• Nothing has gone right for Arsenal's expensive signing Lee Chapman this season. Chapman cost almost \$1,000,000 when signed from Stoke a few months ago but hasn't managed to win a regular first team position. Last week the costly striker had to go into hospital for a cartilage operation.

★ ★ ★

• On Sunday February 6, history will be made in English football. On that day Swansea City play Watford at Vetch Field — and it'll be the first Sunday fixture ever staged in the first division. Why the shock switch to Sunday? On Saturday February 5, Wales play England in a Rugby Union international and the match will be televised live. Swansea don't want to compete with Rugby Union, a sport which is almost a religion in South Wales.

★ ★ ★

• After eight months without a club, top manager Ken Furphy is starting to wonder if he'll ever get back into soccer. Only a few years ago, Furphy was one of the most sought-after bosses in England. In 20 years he was never out of work, doing particularly well in the USA where he coached a Detroit and New York Cosmos.

Only the bravest and the least informed can look forward to the coming NSL season with anything but anxiety.

The omens are far from good: the vast Philips sponsorship—nearly \$2 million in six seasons—has yet to be replaced, airfares keep rising (62 percent since January 1980), the licensed clubs in NSW are hard hit because of the random breath-testing and the country's overall economic condition is also on the sick side.

And yet, the NSL can survive, despite the prophesis of doomsday gurus—but only if our clubs can start to make intelligent decisions instead of relying, traditionally, on hope, luck and prayer.

In Sydney, for example, the five NSL clubs should have already got together to make a pact, agreeing not to sign one another's players for a two-year period.

Such a sensible moratorium could help reduce the raging inflation caused by unrealistic overpayments to players and by astronomical transfer fees.

Don't blame the players for trying to make as much as possible out of the game; blame the clubs for not having the foresight to protect their own interests.

Without such a suggested pact, some players cleverly use one club against another; if they can't get what they want from 'X' they threaten to start talks with 'Y,' driving up costs even further.

And yet, it's not up to the players to worry about the possible financial collapse of their clubs or even the NSL; this is the duty of the club administrators whose whole existence is under attack.

LADIES FIRST?

Another measure meriting a thought is to admit ALL women free to NSL matches in 1983, if accompanied by a man. Two for the price of one—regardless of whether they are married or not.

The risk of losing revenue is minimal: hardly any woman goes to matches even with a man, let alone without one.

However, they can use their strong influence to keep their man at home.

Under the existing economic conditions, especially with husband or wife being unemployed, it's unreasonable to expect a married couple to attend soccer matches weekly.

And if the wife stays home alone, sooner or later she will get her way and keep the husband home, too.

OUR YOUNG SOCCEROOS

Since the end of last season, often in an under-publicised fashion, Australia has scored some impressive international successes.

The Socceroos won the Singapore tournament unbeaten while the Youth team came a brilliant third in the special Joao Havelange tournament at Acapulco, before winning a World Youth Cup preliminary round in Port Moresby just before Christmas.

Les Scheinflug, in his quiet, almost placid way, is well on the way to shape two strong and successful national sides at senior and youth level.

Now comes the crunch, the second round of the World Youth Cup elimination series in Costa Rica against the home team and Israel.

It would be a major triumph if the young Aussies could win this threesome and qualify for the 1983 finals in Mexico later this year.

By John Taylor

Tribal fighting still exists very much in the Highlands of Port Moresby. Fortunately the Young Socceroos didn't have to combat Papua New Guinea warriors there last month.

The Australian team, in the PNG capital for the Oceania soccer tournament, achieved what it set out to do.

Apart from winning the round robin tourney, which meant qualifying for the second stage of the World Youth Championship to be played in Costa Rica, beginning this week, Australia completed the icing on the cake by winning the Oceania Cup final.

It was anything but smooth sailing for Australia.

Australia had its share of problems both on and off the field. The Australians did well to overcome the heat and humidity, the rugged tactics of the New Zealanders and the kamikaze style of the New Guinea youths.

Not to mention the poor standard of refereeing (Don Campbell, of Australia, excused) and the bungling by local officials.

FIFA had to intervene and put the organising committee straight because it failed to abide by the rules. The PNG organising committee obviously hadn't heard of the new four-step goalkeeping rule until it received an urgent telex from the international controlling body.

BLACKOUT FIASCO

But the biggest fiasco was during the PNG-Australia match when there was a blackout. The teams battled through the last 10 minutes in darkness. The committee was well aware that darkness fell at 6.30 pm, but it never stuck to set playing times. After the match the Australian team's bus was pelted by rocks.

It's no wonder Australian coach Les Scheinflug lashed out and referred to some incidents as 'the law of the jungle'.

Off the field the players were bored during their leisure time. They were confined to their hotel most of the time because there was just nothing to see or do. And it wasn't safe to go for a stroll in the streets once darkness fell.

In the next few days Australia will battle it out with Israel and Costa Rica in Central America for the right to win a place to the WYC finals in Mexico.

PATIKAS IS BACK

While Israel will obviously prove the major stumbling block, national coach Scheinflug must feel reasonably confident about his team's chances, especially now that Jim Patikas is with them.

Scheinflug can be justifiably proud of the players' fitness. Their stamina was the reason why they were able to come from behind and beat New Zealand twice, first in the elimination series and then in the Cup final.

But it was very noticeable

how much Australia missed Patikas.

Without him the midfield didn't function well. Russell Stewart, Luciano Fabrizio and Marcelo Salvo are ball players and not tacklers.

The aggressive Patikas gives the midfield a ball winner and adds goalscoring strength. Strikers David Lowe and Rod Brown can now be assured of better service in Costa Rica.

Lowe, speedy winger Frank Farina, who scored a couple of classic goals, and captain and libero Tom McCulloch were the real success stories in Port Moresby.

How New Zealand's Mori striker Colin Tuua was



Rene Licata

voted player of the tournament ahead of Lowe is a real mystery.

While Lowe was heavily marked, he still managed to score in all four matches. His injury-time header which gave Australia a 2-1 win over the Kiwis in the round robin competition was the most important goal of his life. It meant Australia was on its way to San Jose, the capital of Costa Rica.

Australia had beaten Fiji 7-0 in its opening game and New Zealand disposed of PNG 6-0 which set the scene for an enthralling battle between the giants.

The Kiwis looked set to emulate their senior team, but with 20 minutes to go the 'Roos gunned their opponents down. First came Fabio Incantalupo's header and then Lowe's match winner after a dazzling 35m diagonal run by Farina.

As it so often happens in sport, a good team can lower its standard when it comes up against weaker opposition. Australia made heavy weather of beating PNG 2-0.

Australia had qualified for Costa Rica, but now Scheinflug wanted to beat the Kiwis again. The Cup final was a real showpiece and offered excitement plus for the fans.

The Kiwis led 2-0 with 15 minutes remaining. Scheinflug chain-smoked and no wonder! Right back Frank Faraone's goal was the spur Australia needed. Farina scored from an impossible angle to force extra time. Australia's fitness told the story. In just two

TEAM WINS FINAL

minutes Lowe and Farina had settled the issue, although New Zealand scored again to make it 4-3.

The Young Socceroos left their mark in Port Moresby and now they are only 360 minutes away from Mexico.

Australia 7 (Wright 3, Brown 2, Lowe, Incantalupo) Fiji 0

Australia: Hummel, Maier, McCulloch, Vliestra, Jones, Farina, Stewart (Salvo 74), Fabrizio, Incantalupo, Lowe, Brown.

Australia 2 (Incantalupo, Lowe) beat New Zealand 1 (Bauerfeind)

Australia: Hummel, Maier, McCulloch, Vliestra,

Jones, Farina, Stewart, Salvo (Licata 67), Incantalupo, Lowe, Brown (Wright 26)

Australia 2 (Farina, Lowe) PNG 0

Australia: Hummel, Maier, McCulloch, Vliestra, Jones, Farina, Stewart (Salvo 73), Fabrizio, Incantalupo (Licata 45), Lowe, Wright.

OCEANIA FINAL

Australia 4 (Farina 2, Faraone, Lowe) beat New Zealand 3 (Tuua, Bauerfeind)

Australia: Hummel, Faraone, McCulloch, Vliestra, Jones, Farina, Maier, Salvo, Licata (Incantalupo 62), Lowe, Brown (Wright 62).

AND ALL THIS IN A FRIENDLY...

Crude Yanks hack us to tiny bits

From Tom Anderson in Los Angeles

Playing in a suburban paddock of Los Angeles, the Young Socceroos very easily won their first warm-up match here.

They beat 4-0 a rather crude "agricultural" under-23 team, the West Valley Chargers.

Frank Farina (2), Rod Brown and Marcello Salvo got our goals.

Ten minutes from the end of the hard physical game, tempers flared and punches were thrown.

Colored Charger captain Brett Nowlan hit midfielder Russell Stewart with a left hook to the chin that sent the Queenslander reeling.

Australian coach Les Scheinflug and his assistant Raul Blanco ran on to the field to part the players from the two teams.

Before this, the Australians had been hacked and kicked by the home side.

The local referee seemed oblivious to what was going on and had little control over proceedings.

Nowlan was not sent from the field after his well-delivered punch.

Luckily, there were no injuries in the Australian camp after the match.

Because of the rugged American tackling, Scheinflug replaced most of the key players in the second half.

Jim Patikas, Tommy McCulloch and Fabio Incantalupo watched the remainder of the match from the bench.

Star striker David Lowe did not play at all because of a damaged toe.

Scheinflug said after the game: "They were aptly named the West Valley Chargers."

"They came at us like the 5th Cavalry — boots and all."

The Young Socceroos turned in some fine soccer on the open and bumpy Pierce College field.

Star midfielder Jim Patikas was under the spotlight after his recent knee injury and performed near his best.

• Close win

In their second match in California, the Young Socceroos won 2-1 against an American Under-23 team, Fram.

Key striker David Lowe was passed fit before the game and played his first match since leaving home.

Lowe was in his usual scintillating form and opened the scoring for Australia in the 34th minute.

In the 58th minute the Australians were shocked when the Californians equalised through striker Steve Coray.

But this setback was the tonic the young Socceroos needed and they came storming back in fine fashion.

Their efforts were rewarded 10 minutes from the end when Rene Licata burst through and scored with a strong left foot drive.

The home team once again handed out some rough treatment to the Australians.

But it did not bother national coach Les Scheinflug who was extremely happy with the exercise.



"While I'm looking at your damaged nerve, I want you to bite on this iron bar."